

*Hafa Adai!*

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# Saipan Tribune

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## Govt signs amended casino deal

By JOEL D. PINAROC  
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REPORTER

The Inos administration has officially approved an amendment to a casino license agreement it signed with Best Sunshine International, Ltd. allowing Best Sunshine to set up a "live" training facility on Saipan.

The CNMI Lottery Commission earlier approved the "concept" of the training facility, but did not sign the amendment pending a final review.

The establishment of the "live" training facility, which essentially mimics what will happen on an actual casino gaming floor, was not included in the original agreement

between the government and Best Sunshine, as detailed in Public Law 18-56 or the Saipan casino law.

The signing is seen as groundbreaking, as the live facility is now seen as the first gaming facility to rise on Saipan.

The training facility will be located on the first floor of the T-Galleria

See GOVT on Page 4

## FAA listens to 'near-collision' recordings

By DENNIS B. CHAN  
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REPORTER

» **PACAF says their planes were not involved**

A Federal Aviation Administration investigator has listened to the tapes confirming the details of a reported "near-collision" between civilian and military aircraft last Wednesday afternoon. Meanwhile, the U.S. Pacific Air Forces have essentially said their planes were not involved in this incident, which saw two unidentified military C-130s coming directly at and passing within 300 feet of a Star Marianas

See FAA on Page 4

## Cape Air cancelled for a week now

By DENNIS B. CHAN  
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REPORTER

Cape Air flight cancellations have reached a full week with all flights from last week Friday until today suspended due to a reported ongoing technical issue with their ATR42 aircraft.

In the meantime, United Express has been flying one accommodating flight per day for affected passengers. Some residents have been told by Cape Air to fly this accommodating flight, ahead of their originally booked flights to avoid inconvenience, and some have taken to social media to air

See CAPE AIR on Page 4



### GENTLE GIANT

JAYSON CAMACHO

Larger than a toy wagon, a female green sea turtle, newly named Raraina Wong, was tagged late Wednesday night by the Department of Land and Natural Resource after it laid 130 eggs in the northernmost part of Saipan. According to DLNR's sea turtle program, it was the largest and their first time to ever tag this gentle beast of the sea.

See story on Page 3

## DPL, HS Lee, Best Sunshine resolve land dispute

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands has agreed to reserve 446 square

meters out of 1,950 square meters of public land in Garapan to H.S. Lee Construction Co. Inc., which is planning to build parking spaces for its commercial building.

DPL also agreed to reserve the remainder of the land (Lot 104 D 01) located in front of I Love Saipan building for casino developer Imperial Pacific International

(CNMI) LLC, better known as Best Sunshine International, Ltd., for its casino-hotel project.

H.S. Lee Construction Co. Inc.,

See DPL on Page 4

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A visiting WHO official urges CNMI leaders to address the NCD epidemic.

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#### ASIA

U.S. Ambassador Mark Lippert is in stable condition after a knife attack.

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#### LIFE & STYLE

Pharrell Williams denies copying Marvin Gaye's music for his hit "Blurred Lines."

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# Local

## Nebraska company blames contractor for defects in airport terminal project

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Leo A. Daly Company, a Nebraska corporation that designed and constructed the defective terminal project at the Francisco C. Ada International Airport, asserts

that it is not legally obligated to defend or indemnify the project's main contractor.

LAD, through counsel Patrick J. Kirby, said any injuries or damage allegedly sustained by contractor Boeing Co. and Boeing Service Co. in the project were

caused solely by the conduct of third persons, entities, or parties.

LAD is not responsible for that conduct, said Kirby in LAD's answer to Boeing's lawsuit against LAD.

Kirby said any injuries or damages allegedly sustained by

Boeing were caused solely by Boeing's own negligence and/or breaches of contract or inactions.

The lawyer also asserted, among other things, that Boeing is barred from pursuing its lawsuit as it has failed to exhaust all administrative remedies.

Boeing Service Co. is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Boeing Co., a Delaware corporation that is reportedly the world's largest aerospace company and a leading manufacturer of commercial jetliners and defense, space, and security systems.

Boeing worked closely with the federal government to implement upgraded security systems following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority contracted Boeing to procure the design and ultimate construction of the terminal addition project. Boeing entered into subcontracts with LAD under which LAD was responsible for both the design and construction management of the project.

In its amended complaint, Boeing Co. and Boeing Service Co. are suing LAD for breach of contract, express contractual indemnity, implied contractual indemnity, professional malpractice, negligence, violation of CNMI Consumer Protection Act, violations of Building Code, bad faith, and contributions.

Boeing asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to hold LAD liable to pay them over \$5 million in damages, and reimburse them of all costs and attorneys' fees.

Boeing counsel Sean Frink stated that Boeing had no choice but to file the lawsuit because LAD refused to fix the structure, to settle the parties' dispute, or to reimburse Boeing for the damages caused by LAD's errors.

Frink said as a result of LAD's negligent and deficient design, CPA issued a demand to Boeing, asking Boeing to tear down and rebuild the project and pay CPA millions of dollars in damages and attorneys' fees.

Frink said Boeing attempted to involve LAD in the negotiations, to solicit input into the most efficient way to repair the facility and resolve the disputes at once.

Last August, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge J. Michael Seabright dismissed CPA's lawsuit against Boeing after the parties reached a settlement that has been approved by the Superior Court.

Seabright, however, ruled that Boeing's lawsuit against LAD, which is also pending before the federal court, will continue.

In its lawsuit, CPA asked the court to order the defendants to pay in excess of \$1 million for damages, courts costs, and attorney's fees.



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March 24, 2015 (Tuesday) 6:00a.m - Registration  
7:30a.m. - Parade begins (Mt. Carmel Field to Hopwood Jr. High School)  
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# DLNR successfully tags 400-lb green sea turtle

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**  
jayson\_camacho@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A 400-lb green sea turtle was successfully tagged by the Department of Land and Natural Resources Wednesday night, soon after it laid its nest of eggs on a beach in the northern part of Saipan.

Employees of the DLNR sea turtle program glued a satellite tag on the back of the creature, which measured 103.6 centimeters (40.79 inches) long from nose to tail and 80.7 centimeters

(31.77 inches) wide. It was so big that its back was a little over a yard wide.

The satellite tag on her shell will help scientists keep track of her movements in the months ahead.

The local turtle program gave the turtle the name Raraina-Wong. "Raraina" translates to queen in Chamorro, while "Wong" means green turtle in Carolinian.

Upon Raraina-Wong's release at about 11pm, she crawled back to the Pacific Ocean.

Tammy Summers, a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration contract biologist working at DLNR, said they tagged her after she finished laying eggs.

It was confirmed that Raraina-Wong laid 130 eggs.

Green sea turtles lay seven nests a year on average. They return to their original nesting sites every two to six years.

Student members of the Environmental and Natural Resource Organization at the Northern Marianas College par-

ticipated in the tagging activity, joining DLNR's Jessy Hapdei and two Division of Fish and Wildlife enforcement officers, John Tagabuel and Frank Rasa.

Summers said that Raraina-Wong is at least 35 years old but may be as old as 50 years old based on her size. She said this was the first time they have ever tagged her on Saipan.

The satellite tags are radio transmitters that send signals to satellites orbiting Earth. Information from the satellites is then relayed to computers via the

ARGOS system. Scientists then plot tracks and produce maps showing the migration routes of each tagged turtle, which is done by NOAA.

Satellite tagging provides immediate and detailed information on turtle movements, dive time, and water temperature, showing the actual route taken to foraging areas by turtles after nesting.

This is the third turtle to be tagged this season, according to Summers. She noted that one went to the Philippines and the other went to Okinawa, Japan.

NOAA has provided the DLNR sea turtle program with a total of 10 tags.

"We're partnering with NOAA-Honolulu and Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center. They are the ones purchasing the satellite tags and doing the mapping and tracking. Our staff is out on the field and attaching

and deploying these devices on the animal," Summers said.

She was excited about having the students participate because it is part of the sea turtle program's mission to reach out to the community and try to inspire them to become the next stewards of the CNMI environment.

Jolly Ann Cruz, president NMC-ENRO, said she and her fellow ENRO members were happy to have seen the turtle and that they enjoyed the experience.

Tagabuel touched on enforcement issues, saying that citizens who encounter illegal activities concerning sea turtles should contact them at 989-6092. Their role during the tagging was to prevent people from disturbing the sea turtle while it was nesting.

Summers said that NOAA scientists are currently setting up the transmitter and mapping the sea turtle and her route can be monitored at [www.seaturtle.org](http://www.seaturtle.org).

To report sick, injured, or dead turtles, call 287-8537 or CTRTLES.

## DPL chief offers 'alternative' leasing agreement

BY **JOEL D PINAROC**  
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REPORTER

Department of Public Lands Secretary Pete Tenorio is recommending "alternative" leasing agreements with hotels with expiring public land leases with the government.

According to Tenorio, he met with officials of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands on Thursday to address some of the concerns of hotel investors, particularly on the leasing extensions.

One topic during the discussion, Tenorio said, is to allow the hotels to get an extension on a portion of the public land that they are leasing now.

However, this alternative agreement will entail legislative approval. "We are looking at possibilities, and there are no

## Guam celebrates survival of Chamorro culture, language

**HAGATNA, Guam (AP)**—Guam residents highlighted Chamorro culture Monday while re-enacting Portuguese explorer Magellan's 16th-century arrival in the Mariana Islands.

Sen. Tommy Morrison of the Guam Legislature spearheaded a change from Discovery Day to Guam History and Chamorro Heritage Day last year, The *Pacific Daily News* reported.

The shift is part of a trend toward greater awareness of Chamorro culture and language.

"Our people are more knowledgeable about our history and culture now. Magellan discovered the islands for Europeans, but we discovered Magellan landing on our shores," said Brandon Cruz, a member of the cultural group Hinasso.

The re-enactment told stories of Chamorros who settled in the Marianas more than 4,000 years ago and the landing of Magellan's ships in 1521. The re-enactment ended with the burning of a thatch-roofed hut to symbolize of the destruction of ancient Chamorro life.

"I think this day is a celebration of the survival of our people. Although we've been colonized by different powers, our culture and language are still here," said Michelle Kikku, cultural dance teacher at Inarajan Middle School.

guarantees," Tenorio said.

Another alternative leasing agreement he suggested is where the hotels can terminate their respective leases and apply for another long-term lease.

But again, these alternatives will need support of the Legislature.

"The onus is not with DPL, but with legislators," Tenorio said, adding that once these hotels are able to draft a leasing proposal, DPL and the hotels can then consult with legislators and move from there.

The official was quick to add that these alternative leasing agreements are "exploratory" discussions.

The leases of Mariana Resort and Spa, Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, and Kanoa Resort are close to expiring, the HANMI earlier said.

Mariana Resort's public land lease expires on April 30, 2018, but it is pursuing a new lease with a commitment of some \$30 million in added investment.

HANMI also said some of its

members are holding back on making future investments on their hotels if they cannot get any assurances that their land lease agreements will be extended.

Without such an assurance, hotels whose public land leases are close to expiration say the uncertainty is putting a damper on their plans to improve amenities and raise hotel standards.

HANMI president Gloria Cavanagh said that right now there has been very little communication regarding the lease propos-

al that Mariana Resort and Spa turned in back in August 2014.

Cavanagh said proposals have been turned in at the end of June but there are still no feedback from the DPL and the government.

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<b>Medical &amp; Dental Coverage</b>	<b>\$ 104.00</b>	<b>\$ 208.00</b>	<b>\$ 304.00</b>
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# Guam agencies join up to extinguish grass fire

**ASAN, Guam**—Navy sailors and civilian firefighters extinguished a grass fire that affected approximately 20 acres of land on the U.S. Naval Base Guam Munitions Annex in Santa Rita

on March 4.

Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 deployed an MH-60S Knighthawk helicopter that conducted 30 water drops to the area while U.S. Naval Base

Guam's Fire and Emergency Service crews fought the fire on the ground.

The command's continuous training proved beneficial to the community as the blaze was

extinguished, preventing evacuation of nearby residents and damage to structures.

"Yesterday's events illustrate our squadron's high level of readiness and flexibility,"

Fire can be seen spreading through U.S. Naval Base Guam's (NBG) Munitions Annex in Santa Rita, March 4. Sailors from Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 and firefighters from NBG's Fire and Emergency Services partnered to extinguish the blaze that affected approximately 20 acres of land.

HELICOPTER SEA COMBAT SQUADRON 25



## DPL

From Page 1

Imperial Pacific, and Triple J. Enterprises Inc. agreed with DPL's decision.

At a press briefing yesterday at DPL's office, DPL Secretary Pedro A. Tenorio disclosed that this agreement prompted H.S. Lee Construction Co. to move to dismiss on Tuesday its lawsuit against him and DPL.

Tenorio said the parties reached the agreement as a result of their meeting last Feb. 24.

"Everybody was happy. We're back in business. Best Sunshine was satisfied with the settlement. We don't want to go to court and waste our time," Tenorio said.

He said DPL agrees to reserve the land for H.S. Lee Construction and Imperial Pacific, subject to an agreement on mutually acceptable lease terms.

Tenorio added that DPL further agrees to proceed with the lease of all other legally available public land within the old Samoan Housing Tract in Garapan to Imperial Pacific.

Following H.S. Lee Construction Co.'s request, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman dismissed Wednesday the temporary restraining order and canceled the preliminary injunction hearing scheduled for that day.

Wiseman issued the TRO last Feb. 20 at the request of H.S. Lee Construction to prevent DPL from conveying any part

of the 1,950 square meters of public land it wanted to lease.

Under the parties' agreement, Triple J Enterprises Inc. and its chairman and chief executive officer Robert H. Jones agree that they have no right, title, or interest in or to any portion of Lot 104 D 01 and will make no claims against DPL or Imperial Pacific.

Triple J. Enterprises Inc. is leasing the ground floor of the four-story commercial building that H.S. Lee Construction is currently building. Triple J. will be bringing to Saipan an international restaurant chain.

The parties agreed that immediately after execution of the agreement, H.S. Lee shall dismiss its lawsuit with prejudice.

Aside from Tenorio, the other signatories of the agreement

were H.S. Lee Construction Co. Inc. corporate secretary Sung Soo Kim, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC representative and Best Sunshine chief executive officer Mark Brown, and Jones, Triple J. Enterprises Inc. chairman and CEO.

Attorney General Edward Manibusan approved the agreement as to form.

In H.S. Lee's lawsuit, the company alleged that DPL first agreed to reserve 1,950 square meters for the 68 parking spaces of H.S. Lee's building but it later claimed the land will be needed for the casino project. H.S. Lee counsel William Fitzgerald stated in the complaint that they compromised for 1,000 square meters instead of the initial 1,950.

## FAA

From Page 1

twin-engine plane.

*Saipan Tribune* learned yesterday that the Saipan airport control tower recordings will leave little doubt that the military planes were already in Delta, or commercial, airspace before they made the attempt to call the Saipan airport tower.

An FAA investigation will reveal that the civilian pilot could be heard talking to the Saipan tower, telling them of the approaching planes, it was gathered. In the background, the military can be heard trying to call the tower, but not on a civilian frequency.

The civilian pilot has since been identified as Star Marianas director of flight operations Robert Christian. The military planes and pilots, believed to be a part of last month's Cope North exercise, have not been identified.

Asked for details on the investigation, FAA public affairs manager Ian Gregor said yesterday that FAA is looking into the reported event. "We do not

comment on pending investigations or reviews," he said.

Meantime, the U.S. Air Force essentially cleared themselves of involvement in the reported event last week, when asked for comment.

According to Col. Dave Honchul, on the evening of Feb. 25, two C-130s departed Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, at 5:30pm, and were in the vicinity of Tinian at approximately 6pm.

"The pilots flying those aircraft followed established radio procedures in contacting both Common Traffic Advisory Frequency and the Saipan tower," he said. This included the required calls for clearance to transit the airspace in question. "The C-130 crews were aware of the general aviation traffic at all times both visually and through the onboard Traffic Collision Advisory System," he said.

"The airmen remained visually clear of the traffic, maintaining at least a one mile lateral separation, in accordance with Visual Flight Rules. At no time did the TCAS indicate a hazardous situation."

Honchul said when there is a question of flight safety, an air-

crew files a Hazardous Air Traffic Report, or HATR, with the Federal Aviation Administration for further investigation, but in this case, "our crews did not file a report, believing the transit was conducted in a safe manner."

"At this time, the FAA at Guam has not given us any indications a HATR has been filed by others. Should one be filed, we will fully support them in their investigation."

Presented with details of Honchul's comment, Christian said that Honchul's report "happened much later" than the incident he had reported around 5pm last Wednesday.

Christian pointed out in order for "near-miss" report to be filed with the FAA, the involved planes have to be within 500 feet. He said FAA would look into whether either parties agree or disagree with the reported details.

But he added this proves a problem because the CNMI right now does not have radar covering anything below 4000 feet, unlike Guam which does have this equipment.

He said verifying the event would rely on pilot reports, be-

cause of the lack of radar.

In a separate interview, Star Marianas president Shaun Christian urged an "open dialogue" with the military to prevent such events.

He said their intention is not to raise this issue into a trial, or a formal court type event, where pilots get their ranked pulled, for example.

"This is more or less trying to get the military, FAA, and the airlines operating in this area together at the table to make sure a good, open dialogue in the future when these activities are occurring," he said.

"The issues that we have and what we continue to have is there is absolutely no preplanning or pre-coordination," save a couple of instances, "where we've had any other discussion with any military officials as to what they are doing, what their plans are, or what they're going to be doing."

"There is very little upfront planning and coordination—no seeming interest on the part of the military to try to understand what weldings we're using, what altitudes we are flying at or anything else," the president said.

said Lt. Christian Burnett, HSC-25 aircraft commander. "HSC-25 is widely known to maintain a 24-hour search-and-rescue, and medical alert posture for Guam. Yesterday proved that the squadron can also provide a quick and effective airborne firefighting capability in emergencies. Such efforts reflect the hard work of our Sailors and proficiency of our aircrews."

NBG Firefighters provided fire suppression with FES' forestry truck and were able to ex-

tinguish the blaze by 7:28pm.

"The coordinated effort between Navy Fire and HSC-25's support proved to be invaluable in stopping the spread of the fire up towards route 17 homes and ordnance property," said NBG FES Deputy Fire Chief Lee-cardo Taimanglo. "Partnership between Navy Fire and HSC-25 benefits includes good communication, coordination between operations of land and air firefighting, and enhanced proficiency of the helicopter pilots and crew." (PR)

## CAPE AIR

From Page 1

their concerns.

The Cape Air/United Express PR office apologized again yesterday in the following statement:

"Cape Air/United Express flights between Guam and Saipan on March 5 and 6, 2015, operating an ATR42 aircraft have been cancelled following the technical issue that is currently being addressed by teams from Cape Air and ATR. United has provided extra flights by using a Boeing 737-800 aircraft to accommodate the affected passengers on both days.

"UA2110 is scheduled to depart Guam on March 5 at

11pm and is expected to arrive on Saipan at 11:36pm. Then, the flight is scheduled to depart Saipan on March 6 at 12:20am and arrive on Rota at 12:54am. This flight is scheduled to depart Rota at 1:40am and arrive on Guam at 2:11am on March 6. UA2116 is scheduled to depart Guam on March 6 at 11pm and is expected to arrive on Saipan at 11:40pm. Then, the flight is scheduled to depart Saipan at 12:25am on March 7 and arrive on Guam at 1:05am.

"Our support teams in Guam, Saipan, and Rota are providing assistance to passengers to make the necessary arrangements for them to complete their travel. We realize this is an inconvenience to our customers and we apologize for the disruption."

## GOVT

From Page 1

in Garapan and will occupy 15,000 square meters of real estate. Just like any casino, the facility will be subject to regulations by the Saipan Casino Commission.

Best Sunshine earlier said the lease for the T-Galleria area is good for two years, starting April 15, 2015. According to the amended agreement, "In no event may the licenses operate the temporary live training facility beyond April 30, 2017."

The amended agreement, signed by the CNMI Lottery Commission and the Office of the Attorney General on behalf of the government, also said the facility will "facilitate stakeholders' understanding of the casino industry; generate tax revenues for the Commonwealth; provide additional entertainment facilities for tourists; and create approximately 500 jobs."

According to Mark Brown, CEO of Best Sunshine, the T-Galleria is ideal for the training facility, considering the number of tourists billeted in hotels around Garapan. He said Best Sunshine will invite tourists and promote the facility.

Brown said the facility will open "hopefully" by June or July.

## License fees

The amended agreement also indicated that Best Sunshine will now pay the government \$5 million in annual license fees for the second year within 15 days after the Lottery Commission and the licensee execute

the amendment authorizing the temporary facility.

The remaining \$10 million annual fee will be paid by Best Sunshine within 15 days after the execution of the public land lease between the Department of Public Lands and Best Sunshine to an area known as Samoan Housing in Garapan for the construction of the 250-room hotel and casino.

The amended deal also indicated that both payments will be made prior to the Aug. 12, 2015 due date.

The 250-room hotel with a casino is Phase 1 of Best Sunshine's multi-billion-dollar integrated resort plan in the Commonwealth.

## Manpower

Brown said people have applied for the training facility, including those with experience in managing a casino, such as dealers, pit bosses, and casino executives to conduct further training.

There will also be a cage director to oversee the operations. A casino cage houses the cashiers and is where players exchange their actual money for chips and vice versa. The cage director will also be responsible to train other casino managers and supervisors.

Best Sunshine has also hired staff for security, cage, and machine maintenance staff. However, he said he would have wanted to get more applications.

The employees hired for the training facility are considered casino employees, the executive said. After the training, the 500 employees at the facility will move in to the 250-room hotel.



# Estate administrator withdraws plan to block road on Rota

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

An estate administrator who was temporarily restrained by the court from blocking Airport Road on Rota has threatened to sue the CNMI government if his claim for compensation over the alleged taking of their land is not resolved within 30 days.

In his letter to Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho on Wednesday, Simeon E. Taisacan disclosed that he already wrote Gov. Eloy S. Inos about his intent to file a lawsuit in federal court against the CNMI government.

Taisacan said he has been trying to resolve this matter outside of court for years with no positive resolution coming from the CNMI government.

"If the CNMI government fails to work with me to resolve this matter, I will proceed with filing a federal lawsuit," said Taisacan, who administers the Selvino A. Taisacan estate.

Taisacan also informed Camacho that he no longer intends to close a portion of Route 10, also known as Airport Road, that crosses his private property.

He said it was never his intention to cause the community "irreparable injury," that he simply wanted to exercise his right to protest the CNMI's taking of his land and not compensating him.

Taisacan cited that under the 5th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, the government must compensate property

owners if they take land for public use.

"I was never compensated for the road that the CNMI government built over my family land," he said.

Although he considers the portion of Route 10 that crosses his property as private ground, Taisacan said he wants the court to acknowledge that the government will



Camacho

be responsible for the safety of the general public using the road and that he will not be held liable for any accidents that may occur on the portion of that road.

"The TRO is no longer necessary as I have decided to keep the road open, as a gesture of good faith, until the issue of compensation is resolved," he added.

Camacho issued the TRO last Feb. 26 after the CNMI government, through assistant attorney general Christopher M. Timmons, requested a TRO and filed a motion for preliminary injunction and a complaint against Taisacan.

In granting the TRO, Camacho commanded Taisacan and

all other persons in concert or cooperation with him to refrain from blockading or interfering with the public's use of Airport Road on Rota and all other roads in the Commonwealth.

"The threatened injury to the people of Rota is immediate and irreparable. It is irreparable because it will be impossible to determine the precise amount of damage to the safety and wellbeing of the public and in terms of the inconvenience caused to the public," the judge said.

Camacho set the TRO hearing for today, Friday, at

10:30am at the Rota Court-house.

Timmons stated that Taisacan sent a letter to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. last Feb. 17, threatening the closure of Airport Road in Rota on March 1 at 8am.

Timmons said on Sept. 24, 2014, Taisacan also wrote a letter declaring the CNMI government in default and informed the government, private businesses, and the public that the road will not be closed but that there will be charges for those who wish to access the property.

Timmons said Taisacan has

long asserted that the government took two parcels of their land to build Airport Road.

Timmons asked the court to permanently enjoin the defendant from blockading or interfering with the public's use of Airport Road.

Timmons moved the court to issue an order declaring that neither Taisacan nor the estate of Selvino A. Taisacan have any right or interest in or to Route 10 adjacent to two lots.

According to the government lawyer, the estate of Selvino A. Taisacan owns two lots that are part of Route 10. He said the two lots were subject to a dispute between the heirs of Selvino A. Taisacan and one Juan A. Hattori, an

adjoining landowner.

Timmons said that on Nov. 15, 1985, Hattori, through a representative, and the Marianas Public Land Commission entered into a deed of exchange, by which Hattori transferred two lots to MPLC in exchange for another lot on Saipan.

Timmons said that to the government's knowledge, this deed, which was recorded on Nov. 15, 1985, is valid and that one subject lot is owned by the Department of Public Lands as MPLC's successor.

The lawyer said Airport Road is a major public thoroughfare that connects the Airport and Dugi and Sinapalo villages to Songsong village.

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From left to right: World Health Organization's Dr. Cherian Varghese, Non-Communicable Disease Alliance chair Dr. Don Hardt, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. Division of Public Health-NCD Bureau administrator Becky Robles, and CHCC's Medical Director for Public Health Dr. Daniel Lamar discuss addressing NCDs through "a whole society approach."

JAYSON CAMACHO

## WHO official urges CNMI leaders to address NCDs

By JAYSON CAMACHO  
jayson\_camacho@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A visiting official from the World Health Organization said the government is responsible for keeping its community healthy and urges the CNMI government to help address the epidemic of non-communicable diseases in the Commonwealth.

"These are not small diseases like bacteria or virus-causing disease that we can just contain. This is deeply weaved in the way we live and in what we eat. So we need to change this and need everybody's engagement on this," said WHO official Dr. Cherian Varghese.

"NCD such as diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and lung diseases are a major problem for all Pacific islanders and CNMI is facing the brunt of these diseases. The government has a responsibility to help people live healthy and that is what translating this into a policy is. Sometimes it is viewed as an interference in the person's choice, but it is not, you're not interfering in the choice. If a person wants to live healthy, there should be an option for that," said Dr. Varghese, who is also a team leader of WHO's Western Pacific Region, Division of Pacific Technical Support, Pacific NCD & Health Through Life-Course.

At the forefront of this fight should be the government, particularly the Legislature, he said.

"But nowadays it is not like that for most of the options around us. That is where legislation is needed. An example is tobacco control. We cannot say that 'smoking is my right and we want to smoke in the aircraft.' Nobody does that. So it is not containing the person's freedom, it is making everybody else's health safe. So I think policies and regulations are very important," he added.

Dr. Varghese has been on island since Monday and attended a presentation with the 19th Legislature, which he said was a good discussion on addressing public health. Among the discussions included taxation for healthier foods.

From Tuesday to yesterday workshops were held with Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. Division of Public Health and other health providers mainly to look at where the CNMI is now in terms of addressing NCDs.

Dr. Daniel Lamar, CHCC's Medical Director for Public Health, echoed Dr. Varghese's words, saying that health advocates as a group have all agreed that NCDs is such an important issue to address for the well-being of the community that they want to bring it to the attention of every single person, agency, department, business, organizations, and etc.

"We solicit their support because it will take a 'whole society approach'," Dr. Lamar said.

"It takes our legislators to create the right policies, to help create the environment, to set the stage to make it convenient for them to live lifestyles in promoting health because that is going to most likely change or impact the NCD epidemic, this tsunami that we're in the midst of," he added.

NCD Alliance chair Dr. Don Hardt said that if NCD problems are allowed to hold sway, problems continue, and people

will destroy the society, its economy, and eventually its freedom because no one will be here anymore.

Dr. Varghese said that WHO has been very

successful in advocating tobacco taxes and one of the main reasons for tobacco consumption going down is due to its high price in the market.

"So taxation as a whole... is really effective. When it comes to food, it is not as clear as tobacco but there are various countries looking at taxing unhealthy products and sugar-sweetened beverages and we know it is one of the major contributors for childhood obesity," he said.

"There is an option to try and tax them in a graded fashion, but a tax on food should always be supported by either a subsidy or a removal of tax on something else so that people have better options rather than just raising tax on one product," he added.

One example is if water is less expensive than sugary soda, people will drink water, but if water is more expensive than sugary sodas, people will drink soda.

One suggestion from Dr. Varghese is to look at importation where agencies can get involved in trying to get healthier products to come in.

Another suggestion is subsidizing a different product such as fruits and vegetables that are healthier when raising the tax on unhealthy products.

"I think that the Legislature can make it happen, because it is not just the responsibility of CHCC or DPH. Whether it is transportation, departments, or in the community, public health will be addressed. So my message to the Legislature is to look at that, how every department can contribute to making the CNMI a healthier CNMI because it cannot just be done by the hospital," he said.

» Addressing non-communicable diseases through a 'whole society approach'

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# NMDC chooses new leadership, sets 2015 agenda



Board members, from left to right, are treasurer Frank Tomokane, vice president Joe Rios, past president Herman "HR" Guerrero, secretary Rita M. Castro, president Joaquin "Jack" R. Sablan, and board member Antonio Mareham.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Along with a new year comes a new leadership, with the board of directors of the Northern Marianas Descent Corp. duly reorganized by those present at the NMDC general membership meeting on Feb. 17 at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan.

The seven-member board includes Joaquin R. Sablan as president and chair of the Membership Committee; Joseph T. Rios as vice president and chair of the Policy Committee; Francisco Tomokane as treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee; Rita M. Castro as secretary; and John DLR. "Bolis" Gonzales, Antonio Mareham, and Jose H. Salas as board members.

Those present openly welcomed the new faces, agreeing

that the composition strategically strikes an inter-generational balance. The new faces who attended the general meeting also participated in the "working meeting" and engaged and brainstormed on a number of educational and program ideas that they want the NMDC to launch and implement over the next 12 to 24 months. They adopted the 10-point program priorities under their 2015 Community Action Plan.

The reconstituted membership and board unanimously agreed to focus on the need to better brand and define the mission and objectives of the non-profit group through a series of open and constructive dialogue, public political education

and awareness on the rights of NMDs and the CNMI through their Covenant and their Constitution in the context of universal international law, understanding the roles and responsibilities of NMDs within the unique political relationship between the NMI and the United States, and advocating for the legal, cultural, political, and social rights of NMDs as a legally, politically, culturally, and internationally recognized and protected peoples.

Herman R. Guerrero, who now becomes the honorary immediate past president along with his predecessors, presided the three-hour-long meeting where other agenda matters were tackled, including an up-

date on the NMDC filing of an *amicus curiae* to the U.S. Ninth Circuit seeking to nullify and overturn NMI District Court Judge Ramona V. Manglona's decision to allow non-NMDs to vote on matters affecting land alienation under NMI Constitution's Article 12. They also shared ideas on finalizing NMDC membership expectations, recruitment, and benefits, among others, for the general membership adoption, in order to attract and sustain a strong advocacy organization for and on behalf of NMDs.

"I feel that the younger generation should take stronger and more active roles in the leadership of the CNMI and pay particular attention to safeguard-

ing the interests and protection of all NMDs as guaranteed by our Covenant," said Guerrero. "I fear that our future political destiny is slowly slipping from our hands. Through this new political education and outreach campaign, for example, which was aptly adopted as one of NMDCs 2015 program priorities under its Community Action Plan, NMDC should emphasize the teaching of the Covenant and the NMI Constitution, and encourage the schools to make these primary subject areas and include them in their civics education curriculum. I believe that when all our residents—NMDs and non-NMDs—better understand the unique political relationship

between the NMI and the U.S., [it] will lead to promoting social harmony and co-existing in our islands we all call home."

NMDC is a non-profit organization whose members are persons of Northern Marianas descent, incorporated to conduct its community affairs on Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands.

They plan to conduct other cultural, family fun, and fundraising activities annually to generate community advocacy and defray the costs associated with hosting such events. If you are interested to join, to contribute your ideas, or simply to learn more about NMDs, email jsablan88@yahoo.com or call 287-6701. (PR)

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# CHCC contracting CFO through consulting firm

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**  
jayson\_camacho@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Almost seven months has past and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. still has no financial chief to assist in the corporation's finances.

CHCC chief executive offi-

cer Esther Muña said that they are finally looking at possibly hiring one individual to become the corporation's financial chief through a healthcare consulting company.

Former CHCC CFO Jack Taitague resigned from the post in August last year, just a few

months after being hired.

Muña told *Saipan Tribune* Wednesday via email that they are considering hiring a former hospital CFO. She did not disclose the individual's name as the contracting process still ongoing.

"He will have the same roles and responsibilities as the in-

terim CFO, which includes preparing the monthly financial statements, working with the auditors, updating the charge master, among many others," Muña said.

"The experience of this former hospital CFO is extremely valuable for CHCC as it con-

tinues to improve its services," she added.

Last October CHCC chose a candidate from the U.S. mainland but the recruitment didn't pan out. That candidate had experience working for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' finance and reimbursement department.

CHCC earlier inked a financial management contract with

the Pacific Health Officer Association, or PIHOA, to help with the corporation's finances.

Muña said they are also looking for a controller to help with the more detailed operations of the hospital such as account payables, working with financial auditors, and assisting the financial chief.

As of now, Cora Ada is the acting CFO.

## Man gets 6 days in prison for disturbing the peace of ex-GF

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has imposed a six-day prison term on a man accused of violating a court order by insisting to see his children at the home of his former girlfriend in San Roque in the early morning hours and at night time.

Wiseman sentenced Joseph Jones Villagomez to six months in prison, all suspended except for two days, for disturbing the peace.

Wiseman also sentenced the 41-year-old Villagomez to six months in prison, all suspended except for four days, for another count of disturbing the peace.

The sentence shall run consecutively, which means Villagomez shall serve a total of six days in prison for both counts. He was given credit for four days. He was ordered to report to the Department of Corrections on March 13 and will be released on March 15.

After completing his sentence, Villagomez will be placed on one year of supervised probation. He is prohibited from consuming any

alcoholic beverages or controlled substances during his probation. He was required to undergo alcohol counseling if recommended by his probation officer.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Villagomez with two counts of disturbing the peace. He pleaded guilty on Wednesday to both charges as part of a plea deal.

Wiseman said he reluctantly accepted the terms and conditions of the plea agreement upon hearing the mitigating circumstances, which include that Villagomez has as serious drinking problem, that there was no physical harm with or to the victim in this case.

The judge said Villagomez has been steadily working for six years and does support his children.

"The court further finds that being on probation for a year and being subject to the prohibition of possessing or consumption of alcohol, and probation's right to monitor him at any time is in the best interest of jus-

tice..." Wiseman said.

Villagomez went to the house of his former girlfriend in the early morning hours of Aug. 30, 2014, knocking on her door and causing her to be scared.

That same day, while drunk, Villagomez yelled profanities at the brother of his former girlfriend when the brother denied him access to his children as the children were sleeping. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



### BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Antonio Camacho! May you be blessed with many more birthdays to come and we all love you dearly. Greetings come from the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## UOG Charter Day on March 10

The University of Guam will celebrate its 47th Charter Day on Tuesday, March 10, 2014, at the UOG campus. Opening ceremonies begin at 9am and activities run throughout the day until 5pm. The public is invited to attend.

Each year, Charter Day is the largest public event at the university with nearly 5,000 people visiting the campus. This year, Charter Day features a multitude of activities and events

including campus tours, presentations from the Marine Lab and WERI, the Annual College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Research Conference, the Chamoru Language Competition at the Calvo Field House, agricultural displays, ROTC tactical demonstrations, Chemistry Titration High School Competition, and an Isla Center for the Arts exhibit on Japanese architecture. The Center Courtyard at UOG will have cul-

tural performances, live music, food, games, and activities for the whole family.

Charter Day will also feature the finals of the President's Cup Competition where students, alumni, and UOG employees have been competing 10 different events including basketball, volleyball, badminton, ping-pong, dodgeball, and more.

The celebration runs from 9am to 5pm. For details and a schedule of events, visit [www.uog.edu/charterday](http://www.uog.edu/charterday). (*UOG*)

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# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

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### EDITORIAL

## Nemtsov assassination likely linked to Putin, Russia's thug-in-chief

**L**ast week's assassination of Boris Nemtsov in the shadows of the Kremlin is the most significant political killing to occur in the 15 years Russian President and Thug-in-Chief Vladimir Putin has been in power.

Not because Nemtsov had any realistic hope of challenging Putin for power. He didn't. But rather because of what Nemtsov represented. He was the rarest of all creatures in Russia's political constellation—a true reformer whose ethical compass pointed due north.

Political assassinations have often been employed in Russia as an effective tool for keeping order. Nothing like a high-profile killing to make folks think twice about opposing the government. Finger-pointing and professed outrage are the traditional aftermath, and we're seeing that now. But soon, usually very soon, world events begin to eclipse the killing—even when it's done through bizarre means such as radiation poisoning—and things settle back into what passes for normal in Russia.

We can only hope this will be different. But it is more likely to presage a new wave of violence.

A protege of former President Boris Yeltsin, Nemtsov was an outspoken critic of Putin's policies in Ukraine and had said he was going to release evidence that Putin's government had a very heavy hand in fueling the supposedly independent efforts of the fighters in eastern Ukraine. His death has prompted tens of thousands of Russians to publicly mourn him, many attending his funeral Tuesday—another likely reason for more rather than less violent suppression.

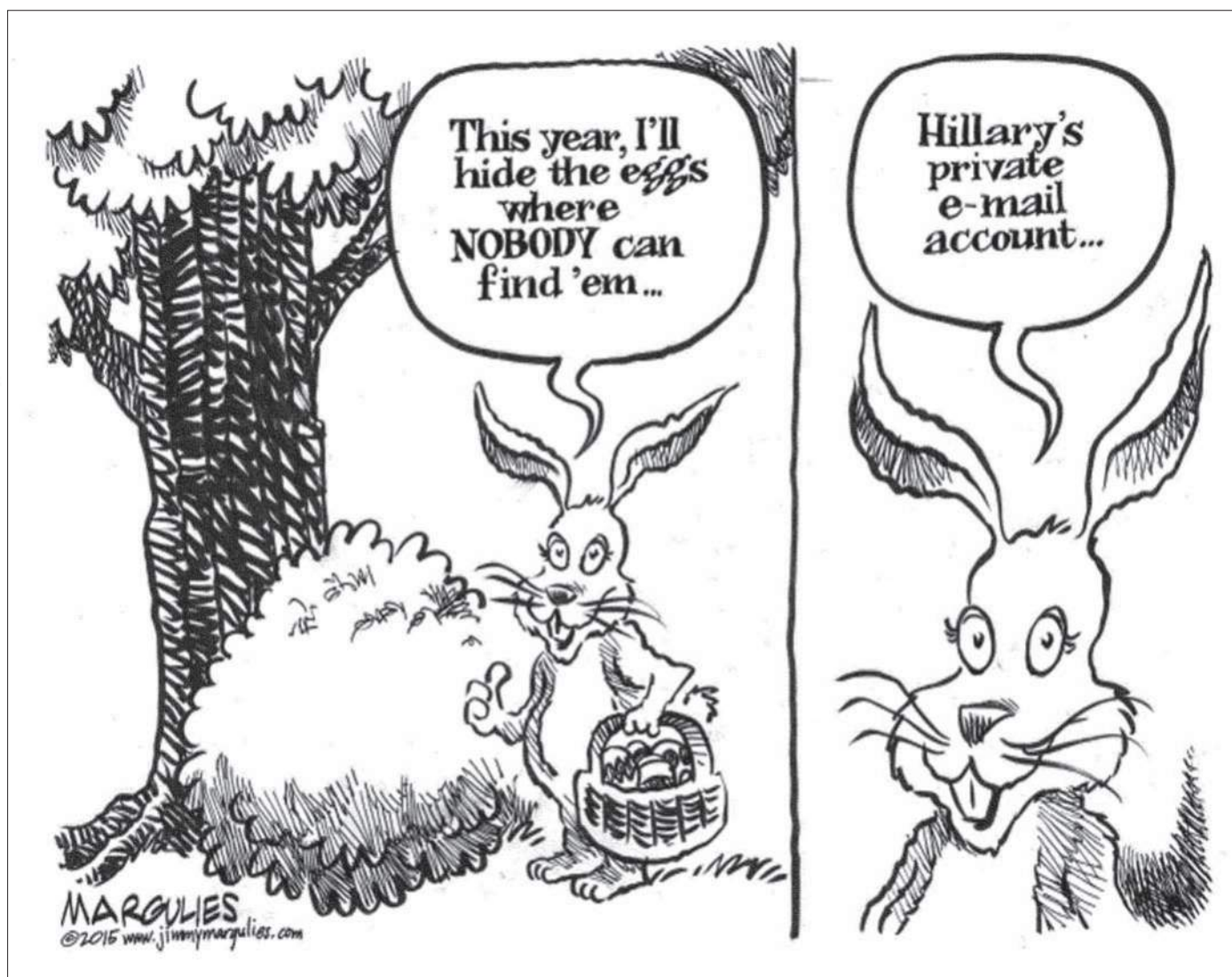
Nemtsov's murder occurred in the most heavily guarded, watched and photographed section of Moscow, yet no one has any pictures of the drive-by shooting. The bridge on which he was killed was within sight of the Kremlin. It has to be monitored intensely. But, somehow, nothing got recorded.

Putin has promised he will fully investigate. Great. That's like having O.J. Simpson roaming the world's golf courses looking for "the real killer."

Putin will find someone to blame. He always does. He warned several years ago that his opposition might kill one of its own leaders to create a martyr, and that ludicrous theory was revived over the weekend. At the time, Nemtsov saw it as a threat by Putin.

Some intellectuals suggest Putin could use this killing the way Stalin used the 1934 murder of the charismatic Bolshevik Sergei Kirov to unleash a time of terror and purges. Conditions in Russia and the world are somewhat different now, but we wouldn't put it past Putin to try.

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## A misguided war effort against Islamic State

**S**ince President Barack Obama asked Congress in February for a new authorization for use of military force against Islamic State, the proposal has been under attack by hawkish members of Congress. "My goal is to do no harm to the war effort," Sen. Lindsey Graham, (R-S.C.), said recently. "The harm is to embrace a strategy with no chance of success."

He's right—and that's precisely why the use-of-force prescriptions Graham and others are advocating are so misguided.

Congressional hawks are pushing for expansive executive war powers. Though they have not offered their own comprehensive strategy, interventionists such as Graham and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., are calling for Obama—and his successor—to be able to wage another American war of choice in the Middle East.

Right now, the war in question is in Syria. McCain has made clear for months that his preferred course of action would commit the U.S. to backing Syria's ineffective moderate rebels in that complicated, multi-front conflict. In effect, congressional hawks propose that the United States should adopt the Syrian civil war as its own cause.

But how would that strategy serve U.S. interests? The United States has one vital interest in Syria: preventing a transnational terrorist attack by Islamic State, one of the splintered militias active in that conflict and throughout the Middle East. But most plans for intervening in the war against Syrian President Bashar Assad would distract from countering Islamic State, not promote it.

The U.S. would have to train and arm a Syrian rebel force much larger than the 5,000 troops that have been discussed. These rebels would not share America's counter-terrorism priority, but would be instead focused on fighting Assad. Washington would have to support those rebels through a long and difficult war, and only when Assad had been defeated would they turn to fighting Islamic State.

Syria's civil war is a monumental tragedy, but adding even thousands more trained Free Syrian Army fighters would accelerate the bloodshed there, not end it. Even the rebels' most steadfast advocates are questioning their ability to defeat Assad. Robert Ford, the former U.S. ambassador to Syria who has supported intervention for years, has backed away from arming the rebels, who he no longer believes could be made capable to take on the regime. Instead, he told McClatchy's Hannah Allam, "The time had come for U.S. officials and their allies to have a serious talk about 'boots on the ground.'"

The consequences of U.S. and allied escalation in Syria would be severe. Russia and Iran are already invested in Syria on Assad's side. Escalation would undermine the administration's policy of

By J. DANA STUSTER

Los Angeles Times

J. Dana Stuster is a policy analyst at the National Security Network and coauthor of the report *Confronting the Islamic State: An Assessment of U.S. Strategic Options*. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



"uncoordinated deconfliction," by which the United States doesn't cooperate with Iran but works in parallel with it in the fight against Islamic State in Iraq. Changing the balance in Syria could lead to a U.S. proxy war with Iran in Syria, Iraq and possibly elsewhere, which among other problems could collapse the nuclear deal under negotiation with Tehran.

Instead of expanding the power of the commander in chief, the new Authorization for Use of Military Force should be a safeguard to prevent the war against Islamic State from metastasizing in unforeseen ways, as has the war against al-Qaida. It is a chance for the U.S., through Congress, to define the war it wants to fight.

And yet much of Congress is reluctant to debate military authorization at all. In September, Rep. Jack Kingston, R-Ga., told the New York Times: "A lot of people (in Washington) would like to stay on the sideline and say, 'Just bomb the place and tell us about it later.' ... We can denounce it if it goes bad, and praise it if it goes well." Now, even congressional hawks are eager to cede what war powers they have to the executive branch, although they have an obligation to authorize and help guide this next war the United States will fight.

As it is now written, the draft authorization does not constrain strikes on Syria or Iraq or anywhere Islamic State operates. Its mild limit on military strategy—a prohibition against "enduring offensive ground combat operations"—has, as National Security Network senior advisor and retired Maj. Gen. Paul Eaton noted last month, "no significant doctrinal or operational meaning."

Is Congress—or the American public—ready for the level of war that even the draft authorization allows? If not, it should include geographic and operational limits, as most American war authorizations have. And congressional hawks shouldn't be allowed to write this or any president a blank check.

Lindsey Graham's concern about embracing a strategy with no chance of success is valid. In fact, it is why congressional hawks' insistence on an unbounded military force authorization is so troubling. It would not only encourage a strategy for failure, it would codify the authority for it.



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Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com); or through our website at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

## Mixed nuts

**Y**ou already know that you can't count on me to have any big ideas. Now that I mention it, I'm usually at a loss for little ideas, too. But this time around I've got a few small notions rattling around in my noggin, so I'll just share them at random, sort of like a jar of mixed nuts.

1) You're familiar with some styles of shirts, such as the aloha shirt and the Barong Tagalog, that are designed to be worn untucked. An incarnation of the aloha style, by Reyn Spooner, enjoys popularity in a lot of places, and I recall that this was acceptable fare for business casual in mainland corporate life.

Outside of these designs, though, it's pretty hard to find a shirt that seems happy to be untucked.

However, maybe this will change. I recently noticed a full-page ad in an in-flight magazine for, yes, untucked shirts. The company's website, "UNTUCKit.com," says their shirts are designed to be untucked. I haven't ordered any of their stuff but I wanted to mention it because I thought it was interesting.

2) Here, by contrast, is a company I've bought stuff from: Pimsleur, the company that makes audio language courses. Pimsleur recently unveiled the fourth level of its Japanese course.

Each Pimsleur "level" is a series of 30 lessons that are about 30 minutes each.

Pimsleur's Mandarin Chinese is now available in four levels, so the Japanese course now joins it.

I asked if a fifth level is coming for Mandarin but was told, essentially, that there's not sufficient demand for such a product.

3) A window of opportunity opened up to take a coast-to-coast

road trip in the states. I was in the mood for just such a thing anyway, so my wife and I took the leap. This landed us in the maw of a record cold spell in the northeast; we're talking sub-zero Fahrenheit. But we've had it easy, since this is a leisure trip, so we don't have to work in the cold. Still, once we got rolling, we headed south for warmer conditions just like migrating birds.

This will make you cry on Saipan, but I just have to tell you: Gas costs about \$2.15 a gallon in the southern states right now, at least from what we're seeing. For \$40 in fuel we can roll 500 miles. My coffee consumption usually costs more than that. I'm sure not complaining.

4) Oh, here's something to complain about: the curse continues. Whenever I find something that I really like, the product is discontinued. This factor follows me like a shadow.

The curse struck again when I discovered an ideal business item, a waxed-canvas attaché that was trimmed with leather. It could accommodate a notebook computer, but was far more endearing than the standard breed of synthetic computer bags. All luggage is a series of compromises, but this one really hit the sweet spot: price, size, weight, materials, design, construction, it was a true winner.

Since it was the perfect fit with Saipan's casual atmosphere, I was going to run an article about it during holiday shopping season as a gift idea. However, as I sought to reconfirm the price, I discovered the item had fallen out of inventory and was no longer available.

Now I see that it's been dropped from the catalog entirely. Yes, the curse continues.

5) Most of my amateur astronomer friends do astrophotography, which typically takes years to master but which rewards such efforts with really impressive results. By contrast, my telescopes are set up

for the better. Or line up along Beach Road with our paper bags and baskets for donations. Would people who are equally broke donate? Juggling the same numbers won't change the dreaded derivative.

### Our sails are torn

Reality has finally set in where we're sent on a tailspin trying to understand the inevitable—the consistently sluggish revenue generation—amidst obligations that pile up by leaps and bounds.

Indeed, politicians must be equipped with vision, leadership, and genuine plans to move things forward. This must be supported by integrity and mindfulness, knowing full well what they want done forthwith to help the multitude. Even a master navigator uses everything at his disposal to guide his canoe forward both night and day to safe port. Am I preaching to the choir?

Interesting, if not, appalling how easily Republicans have passed the baton unto CDA to work on an economic plan for the CNMI. It goes without saying it also has no clue that it must have a firm understanding where's the goal post is when it hits the ground running beginning on inauguration day. How sad the wind our sails are torn!

### Fast tracking casino

Unfortunately, the deepening fiscal crisis has forced the administration to press the panic button to fast track Best Sunshine's casino in Garapan. The intent is to shore up more money hopefully soon for piles of government obligations.

Hope inter-agency cooperation is extended BSI to get its initial casino rolling before year's end. The CNMI needs money to maintain and continue the same level of services.

There's nothing wrong fast tracking casino. Nonetheless, it's a

term goal for many.

This trend goes by different names: living simpler, slower, smaller. But lowered expectations don't entirely explain the shift—which I observe in individuals of every generation. For many, the prolonged Great Recession cut monthly incomes drastically, and people have had to live with less.

Too, daily news about terrorism here and abroad reminds us how fleeting life can be.

Slower living has baffled economists. Consumers—don't you love that term for human beings?—didn't bump up spending in January, even though low gasoline prices were giving everyone's wallet a bit of a break. Analysts at Visa Inc. found that we're mostly saving that unspent money or using it to pay down debt.

With job growth in 2014 the strongest it's been since 1999, you would think people would feel confident to spend. But January sales fell more than expected at many clothing stores, department stores and furniture outlets.

Some people seem to be resetting their priorities. As we learn about what makes for a happy human, we're valuing experiences over things. If you want to feel really good, go someplace beautiful with people you love. It will net you more bliss than a designer jacket or an heirloom watch.

### By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at [EdStephensJr.com](http://EdStephensJr.com).  
His column runs every Friday.



purely for using an eyeball, not a camera lens.

A camera can see more than an eyeball, since it can accumulate the light that hits it, while eyeballs by contrast have to take what they get at a glance. What looks impressive in a photo is often just a very faint orb of fuzz in my eyepiece, but it greatly entertains me nonetheless.

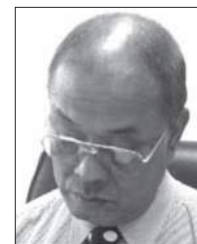
6) You might have forgotten to celebrate International Ear Care Day, which was marked on March 3. I'll admit that I let that one sort of slide by my calendar as well. But the World Health Organization warmed up to the occasion by issuing a study that warns that a vast number of youngsters are risking permanent hearing loss by the misuse of personal audio devices.

This might be a recent evolution of an old story. Portable music became popular in the '80s, using small headphones instead of today's ear buds. Of course, it's a lot more common these days, and the technology is smaller and more convenient. I've got no idea where the boundary is drawn between use and overuse. So I'll err on the side of caution, keeping in mind some words from Edgar Allan Poe: Never bet the devil your head.

### By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



tale of obligations having gone way ahead of what's coming into the local coffers annually.

We must also demand the local triad—Lt. Gov. R. Torres, House Speaker J. Guerrero, and Rep. R. Demapan—to pay their fine of \$10,000. Since when is it law that it is the taxpayers' obligation to pay wrongs committed by public officials?

Interesting the initial rain and fire dance used by the triad to avoid eventual prosecution. What is it in the term "public" that you fail to understand? Even a grammar school student knows this by heart. At the outset you were viciously in denial of law violation. You finally worked up the nerve to admit wrongdoing. Let's complete the process by your taking full responsibility for paying the \$10K. It was never the taxpayers' doing in any form or fashion. *Dalai 'ste na che 'chu' tatamudu!*

■ ■ ■

The local triad—Lt. Gov. R. Torres, Speaker J. Guerrero and Rep. R. Demapan—promise to audition for the nativity skit at Mt. Carmel as the Three Kings. It would be interesting what kind of gifts they'd bring to the Baby Jesus. However, their role must not be accepted unless they confess how they've missed the turn to Integrity Land. I mean two lies and the failure to pay the \$10K isn't an absolution!

## Juggling fiscal resources

**T**he fiscal difficulty of the CNMI government deepens. It has started to haunt us miserably too. What's the root cause of the growing financial mess? The fiscal monstrosity started 36 years ago when we implemented the retirement program.

Not only was it a woefully generous program, half-cocked politicians decided it was perfectly fine to feed off the hog's back. In other words, they piled it with obligations that have nothing to do with memberships' service contribution. We did it heedlessly as though we own oil fields. It is now bankrupt or broke! It's also under life support in the fiscal ICU of the Department of Finance.

The unfunded liability—money the settlement fund must pay until the last member expires—is around \$779 million. Makes you wonder how do we deal with it in light of the fact that we can't even find sufficient funds to pay some \$28.7 million in utility debts to CUC. Hell, now I must suspiciously rely on "solutions-driven leadership" for real-time answers.

Is there a way out? Well, the federal court has mandated the local government how much it remits to the settlement fund annually for the next 10 years. The payment is done on a quarterly basis. In brief, payment for retirees' checks continues for as long as there's money.

What happens in two years when money with the settlement fund is completely exhausted? Retirees would need some magical rain and fire dance to encourage revenue generation to improve. Without sufficient revenue in the local treasury we all walk home—skipping the banks—rehearsing our *mea culpa*. That would be the day of infamy for retirees!

Otherwise we'd have to accept what's known in local net fishing tradition as "*patten tiau*" in hopeful prayer that something breaks

## What the Great Recession taught us about people and things

**W**hen my nephew graduated from high school, he decided not to enroll in college. The family thought, well, he'll mature. Then he'll want to get serious.

But he's taken a sharp turn that we didn't expect. He qualified as a home health aide, fell in love and is raising two boys. When I see him, he shows me his artwork and talks about making money "selling stuff online."

This choice—to slow way down in one's 20s instead of speeding onto the career highway—is foreign to me. But I thought, maybe he's an exception.

Then I spoke to a friend, an aspiring filmmaker in her early 30s who just went on "sabbatical" for a month in Mexico. She worked on a farm by day and edited film during her off hours.

I thought, that must be nice, as I turned back to my two-income, two-car household, a mortgage and college savings plans for two teenagers. But I wonder whether my nephew and my friend are on to something: savoring life without all the expense.

Studies say people under 35 are coming to terms with being the first generation to do worse economically than their parents. Secure careers, pensions and even rising wages seem to be things of the past, while the cost of a university degree continues to climb. So, owning a home or a car isn't a priority or even a long-

### By ANNE MICHAUD

Newsday

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Conspicuous consumption, in places, is giving way to minimalism. Consider the tiny-house movement, where people live in single-room dwellings of less than 200 square feet—some of them on wheels. I found a virtual tour of one home on YouTube, built for about \$33,000 in four months to accommodate two people.

What comes with a tiny house is freedom. Owners can do a lot more in terms of both cash and time. And the environmental footprint is far smaller.


The Great Recession has warned us how devastating it can be to look for happiness in possessions.



# The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲86° ▼75°


SATURDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲86° ▼75°


SUNDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼75°


MONDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼75°

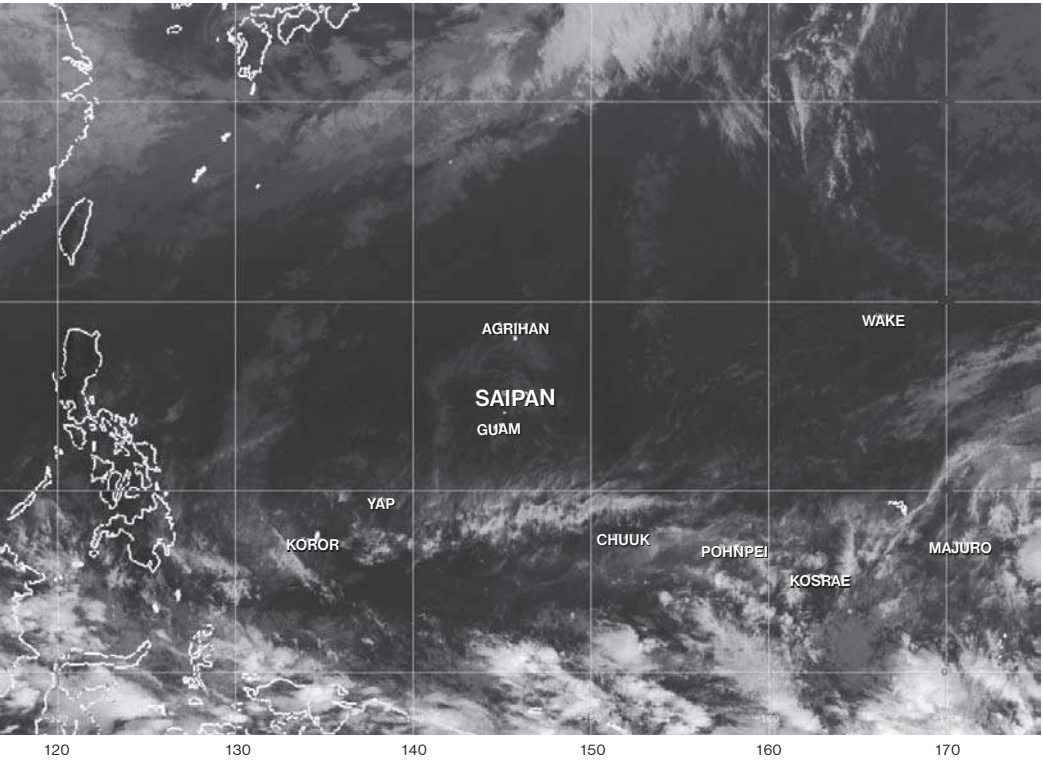
TUESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼75°

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough stretches far eastward from 3N130E to a disturbance centered near Tarawa at 2N175E. Areas of scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near the equator are south of a line from 4N130E to 2N174E. Scattered showers near Koror and Yap and south of Chuuk and Pohnpei are within 100 miles of a line from 8N138E to 4N160E. A trade-wind surge across the date line is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southeast of Wake Island and just east of Majuro to the northeast of a line from 14N167E to 1N178E. A cold front runs southwestward from 25N140E to beyond 130E to 24N. Extensive cloudiness and patchy rain are along and up to 300 miles northwest of the front.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼76
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼76
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼77
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼79
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼79

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Showers	▲77	▼64
Beijing	Sunny	▲55	▼27
Hong Kong	Showers	▲70	▼65
Honolulu	Showers	▲77	▼66
London	Mostly Sunny	▲55	▼38
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲77	▼49
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲90	▼71
Melbourne	Showers	▲70	▼57
Miami	Sunny	▲84	▼70
New York	Snow	▲30	▼13
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲54	▼39
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲53	▼33
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲51	▼36
Rome	Rain	▲51	▼45
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼38
San Francisco	Sunny	▲70	▼51
Seoul	Sunny	▲48	▼29
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲52	▼39
Washington, DC	Snow	▲35	▼11



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
2: 17 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
8:28 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
2:38 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
8:09 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:32 AM	6:26 PM
Saturday	6:31 AM	6:26 PM
Sunday	6:31 AM	6:26 PM
Monday	6:30 AM	6:27 PM
Tuesday	6:29 AM	6:27 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:49 PM	6:33A M
Saturday	7:36 PM	7:11 AM
Sunday	8:23 PM	7:50 AM
Monday	9:11 PM	8:29 AM
Tuesday	10:00 PM	9:10 AM

NEWS DESK

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 5, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3			UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3		
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7		
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota			UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7		
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5			UA5038	1:10pm	2:40pm	2, 4 via Rota		
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4			UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5		
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5			UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5		
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7			UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5			UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7			UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7			UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)						PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	1:10am+1	2, 6 via NRT			DL298	4:35am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6			DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily		
DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	Daily			DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1			OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily		
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C 3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily		
OZ6063	3:20am	7:10am	3, 4, 6, 7			OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7		
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily			OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C 3401	4:30pm	8:20pm	Daily			OZ6053	8:50pm	2:10am+1	2, 3, 5, 6		
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:00am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	1, 4, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:30am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:55pm	3:10am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN			OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			PR110/UA5041	7:35am	6:25pm	1,5 via GUM		
UA5069/PR111	2:45am	4:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5077	7:35am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/191	4:15am	7:20am	2, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5043	7:35am	10:10pm	1, 5 via GUM		
UA5070/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM			DL172/288	9:40am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT		
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA190/5077	10:00am	8:05pm	3, 6 via GUM		
DL287/275	6:05am	9:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT			OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5071/PR111	6:40am	4:50pm	3 via GUM			OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5071/PR111	7:15am	4:50pm	1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:50pm	3 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5038	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	4 via GUM-Rota		
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM			UA184/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	5 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	1 via GUM			UA184/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	4 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM		
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN			UA184/5038	10:59pm	2:40pm+1	2 via GUM-Rota		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ606/723	2:10am	12:50pm	1 via ICN			OZ750/603	1:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ606/723	2:40am	12:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/179	4:15am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5068/179	8:00am	10:35pm	3 via GUM			OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5068/179	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5039/179	2:20pm	10:35pm	6 via Rota-GUM			UA180/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA5078/179	3:10pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via GUM			UA180/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM		
OZ604/749	3:20pm	10:30pm	Daily via ICN			UA180/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota		
						UA180/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1, 5 via GUM		
						UA180/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 6 via GUM		
						UA180/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1, 5 via GUM		



# NMIS students shine in regional speech competition

Northern Marianas International School students once again showed their excellence in speech competition during the National Junior Speech & Debate Association regional competition.

The contest kicked off at Dandan Middle School on Feb. 21 and ended at Mt. Carmel School on Feb. 26-28, 2015.

NMIS had eight students that qualified in the regional competition and four of them grabbed major awards in different events.

The team of Myka Villegas and Deirdre Rosete won first place in Duo Interpretation. They will represent CNMI in the 2015 National Tournament to be held in Dallas, Texas, on June 16-19, 2015.

Maverick Irang won third place in Story Telling. Myka Villegas won second place in Original Oratory, while Christian Aldan won third place. Deirdre Rosete also won fourth place in Original Oratory and third in Poetry.

Also, Villegas and Rosete won first place in Duet Acting in the Junior International Thespian Society. They will represent the CNMI at the JITS Festival in Lincoln, Nebraska, on the last week of June 2015.

The administration, faculty, and staff of NMIS wish to congratulate all the participants, parents, and their coach, Kathy Barja, for a job well done in this prestigious event.

The National Speech & Debate Association is the largest interscholastic speech and

debate organization serving middle school, high school, and collegiate students in the United States. The association provides competitive speech and debate activities, high quality resources, comprehensive training, scholarship opportunities, and advanced recognition to more than 130,000 students and coaches every year. For nearly 90 years, the National Speech & Debate Association has empowered more than 1.5 million members to become engaged citizens, skilled professionals, and honorable leaders in our society.

## 1<sup>st</sup> place Duo Interpretation

Myka Villegas  
Deirdre Rosete

## Original Oratory

2<sup>nd</sup> place, Myka Villegas  
3<sup>rd</sup> place, Christian Aldan  
4<sup>th</sup> place, Deirdre Rosete

## Story Telling

3<sup>rd</sup> place, Maverick Irang

## Poetry

3<sup>rd</sup> place, Deirdre Rosete

## Duo Semifinalist

Mikaela Vergara  
and Rejenmhay Jingco  
Maverick Irang  
and Dondi Ferrer

## Impromptu Speaking

Semifinalist  
Christian Aldan  
Rio Ayu Shadow

## Original Oratory Semifinalist

Rio Ayu Shadow



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Northern Marianas International School students have their picture taken with their coaches and teachers after a successful NJFL event.

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## SAIPAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL

### Honor Roll list for second quarter

#### 6TH GRADE

##### "A" Honor 3.50-3.99 (No C's)

Jason Sablan  
Won Woo Nam  
Mateo Guerrero  
John Hong

##### "B" Honor 3.00-3.49 (No D's)

James Park  
Seungju Lee  
Annie Ren  
Puti'On Palacios-Camacho  
Miku Torres  
Maxine Rabago

#### 7TH GRADE

##### "A" Honor Roll 3.50-3.99 (No C's)

Kate Ishida  
Iris Lee  
Esther Park  
Ye Lee Cha  
Rovin Bacani

Jon Paul Sablan

##### "B" Honor Roll 3.00-3.49 (No D's)

Shane Nan Xie  
Maruf Mamun  
Ken Song  
Jeffrey Seo  
Tomjayson Cayetano

#### 8TH GRADE

##### "A" Honor Roll 3.50-3.99 (No C's)

Mimi Sakano  
Annabelle Sablan  
Ellen Lee  
Celina Wu  
Alex Chen  
Vincent Tudela

##### "B" Honor Roll 3.00-3.49 (No D's)

Rae Min  
Geon Woo Ryu  
Haruya Eda  
Sun Je Lee  
Kevin Zhen  
Alan Yu



# Shriners holds outreach at CHC's Children's Clinic

Providing services and outreach every six months throughout the entire Region 9 Pacific Basin for the past 15 years (which includes the CNMI, Guam, Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands, and America Samoa), the Honolulu Shriners Hospital for Children was recently in the CNMI to

provide services for children and children/adolescents with special health care needs, ranging from ages 0 through 18 years. From Feb. 3 to 6, Shriners provided Outreach Clinic at the CHCC Children's Clinic in which 93 patients were seen, with two trauma surgeries conducted.

The Shriners team consisted

of Dr. Craig Ono, M.D., Orthopedic Surgeon; Cheryl Caneda, APRN, Nurse Practitioner; Sandy Zukeran, Outreach Coordinator; and Ken Mandler, Orthotist, all of whom are equipped and staffed to care for children with congenital orthopedic issues, which are problems resulting from orthopedic

injuries, including diseases of the bones, joints and muscles. Shriners also treat patients with healed burns who, as a result of those burns, may have developed orthopedic complications, such as scarring and deformity of the limbs.

Alongside doing philanthropic work with children and ado-

lescents, Shriners is currently planning on updating their services to regularly include having an OR (operation) schedule, especially for trauma patients, such as fractures in children. Furthermore, Shriners plans to further enhance services among the Pacific Region with the use of telehealth/telemedicine. Su-

san Yamamoto, the telemedicine coordinator, was here as well to conduct the assessment.

For families who have children with orthopedic concerns, they can visit CHCC-Division of Public Health Services or contact Shiella Marie Perez at 236-8714 for further inquiries. **(CHCC)**

## UOG graduate students awarded Sea Grant Fellowships



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Five students were recently selected for research fellowships by the University of Guam Sea Grant program. UOG Sea Grant helped two students last year conduct research on corals and marine invasive species. From left to right: Adrian Kense, Devon Resko, Travis Reynolds (2014 fellow), Andres Reyes, Jacques Idechong, Valeri Lapecek, and Anna Simeon. Students receive between \$6,000 to \$12,000 for their research and continued studies.

The University of Guam Sea Grant program recently awarded five Master's Thesis Supple-

mental Grant Fellowships for student research.

Graduate students Andres

Reyes, Devon Resko, Valeri Lapecek, Adrian Kense, and Jacques Idechong were se-

lected. The grants focus on research for areas of development in coastal communities. The students will receive between \$6,000 and \$12,000.

"The fellowship program gives students the chance to increase the impact of their research," said UOG Sea Grant assistant professor Dr. Laura Biggs. "The program also helps bring students into the graduate science

programs at UOG."

This is the second year UOG Sea Grant has offered the fel-

**» Students to receive between \$6,000 and \$12,000**

lowship program. Last year graduate student Travis Reynolds used the fellowship funds to expand the scope of his coral bleaching research. His work will help create a model that will assist natural resource managers as they make decisions affecting coral reefs. To

date, the fellowship program has provided \$52,000 in funding for graduate students.

Andres Reyes will study enzymes in rabbitfish, or *Siganus spinus*. He will focus on the enzymes that help the fish metabolize and clear different chemicals.

Devon Resko will be studying sharks and their movements in Guam's nearshore waters. His research will focus on the type of habitat and movement patterns of local coastal shark populations in Guam. This includes hammerhead sharks and white tip reef sharks.

Valeri Lapecek is studying the coral *Acropora*. She is working on figuring out the seasonality of reproductive timing to see if the coral is spawning successfully. She is also trying to learn more about the DNA of the corals and identify different coral animals on a genetic level.

Adrian Kense is looking at different types of algae found near Guam and using new technology to map the DNA sequences. He will also be looking at things that affect the algae like pH and wave action.

Jacques Idechong will be researching the role of marine protected areas in fishery management. He will be looking at different indicators like coral diversity, ecosystem complexity and what types of fish species are found in the marine protected areas. **(UOG)**

## Ripples from Pacific fisheries forums to be felt globally

**NOUMEA, New Caledonia**—The future management of one of the world's most significant fisheries, which spans more than 30 million square kilometers of the Pacific Ocean, will be under review at back-to-back forums this week at the headquarters of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community in Noumea, New Caledonia.

Marine scientists, natural resource managers, researchers, community fishers and non-governmental organizations from 24 countries and territories will take part in a forum on the future of Pacific coastal and inshore fisheries management from today until Thursday.

It will focus on the role of communities in coastal fisheries and natural resource management, and how community-level action can contribute to national systems addressing future food security and livelihoods.

The catch from Pacific coastal fisheries alone is estimated at 155,000 tons per year with a value of US\$320-500 million.

Across the region, small-scale fisheries provide vital income for around 50 per cent of coastal households and also comprise 50 to 90 per cent of dietary protein.

Regional food security is a crucial issue linked to fisheries,

with per capita seafood consumption in many Pacific Island countries and territories three to five times higher than the global average, for example ranging from 18 kg per person per year in Papua New Guinea to 147 kg per person per year in Tuvalu.

The forum is being staged by SPC in partnership with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, World Fish, the University of Wollongong and the Locally-Managed Marine Area Network.

It will be followed by the 9<sup>th</sup> biennial Heads of Fisheries meeting at which senior Pacific government officials, Pacific regional agencies and observers will convene to examine SPC's fisheries and aquaculture work and its linkages to national and territorial fisheries administrations, and issues facing the region's coastal and oceanic fisheries.

SPC has a major role in scientific assessments of the status of both regional tuna stocks—for what is the world's biggest tuna fishery—and of the coastal fisheries of individual Pacific Island countries and territories.

As the major Pacific fisheries meeting for 2015, the gathering will also examine: stock assess-

ments; the need for standardized data collection for coastal fisheries and aquaculture; SPC scientific research on tuna and other species; the potential of deep-water snapper; and a long-term strategy for training fisheries observers.

European Union support for fisheries in the Pacific will also be discussed, with a review of the achievements and lessons learned from the concluding EU-funded SciCOFish Project, and consideration of a potential new EU fisheries partnership for the region.

"Fisheries, as a key issue for food security, livelihoods and economic growth, need long-term planning and considerable coordination among agencies, regional NGOs, donors, community organizations and other stakeholders and sectors," the Director of SPC's Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Division, Moses Amos, said.

"With coastal fisheries, the results of good management, or lack of it, have long-term impacts at the national level, while for highly migratory oceanic fisheries resources like tuna, fisheries management in one country's waters has impacts that can be felt within the region and beyond," Amos said. **(SPC)**



### MATSON DONATION

Matson liaison Maritess Yumul, right, presents a generous donation from the Matson Foundation to Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance's Brooke Nevitt.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



# 2015 Red Cross Walkathon set for March 21

By JAYSON CAMACHO  
jayson\_camacho@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter is gearing up for its signature event, the 29th Annual Red Cross Walkathon, which will take place on March 21 this year.

John Hirsh, ARC-NMI Chapter executive director, said this year's edition would be even better, with more activities and prizes for participants.

Activities will include ring toss, balloons, a bounce house, face painting, a petting zoo, and the presence of Hapipi the Clown. There will also be a demonstration by the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services and a showcase of military equipment.

This year's theme is "Walk for the Red."

However, instead of the white or red shirts that participants usually wear for the walkathon, this year's Red Cross Walkathon shirts will be green in support of the military.

"We changed this year's shirt color to support our troops," Hirsh said.

The event will also have free blood pressure and blood sugar testing as well as immunizations.

Prizes include water park passes, gift certificates from McDonald's and others, BLU Tank 4.5 smartphone, Kindle Fire HDX, Athlete's Foot/All



File photo shows some of the more than 2,000 walkers that participated in the 28th Annual Red Cross Walkathon in March last year.

JAYSON CAMACHO

Star sports equipment, 25,000 United Miles, eye exams, and many more.

Hirsh said those who raise \$75 would receive a Pacific Islands Club Waterpark pass, \$5 gift card from Subway, Regal/Hollywood Theater tickets, and a McDonald's gift certificate. Those who raise \$20 will receive a T-shirt, giveaways, and free refreshments provided by Coke, Subway, and Foremost.

There will also be 20 health

fair participants, including the Public School System, Northern Marianas College-CREES-Aquaculture, Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Ayuda Network, Let's Move Marianas, Commonwealth Diabetes Coalition, Commonwealth Cancer Association, Family Violence Task Force, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, NMPASI,

CAMI, PSS Head Start, Council on Developmental Disabilities, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Hardt Eye Clinic, Get Fit CNMI, NMC Nursing students, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.-H.O.M.E/Immunization, MINA, NMC-CDI's Health area, ARC Health and Safety, Coke, Subway, Foremost, and Marpac.

Major sponsors and donors include Coke, Foremost, Subway, Scoops and Glimpses,

Bank of Guam, IP&E, Pacific Subsea, Pacific Islands Club, Island Apparel, Bank of Hawaii, First Hawaiian Bank, IT&E, Coral Ocean Point, Marianas Eye Institute, PHI Pharmacy, Micronesian Brokers, ASC Trust Corp., Herman's Modern Bakery, Athlete's Foot, Triple B Forwarders, Ace Hardware, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, J's Ent., GHD Engineering, McDonald's, Tropical Blend Spa, Joeten Superstore, JC Teno-

rio Ent., Saipan Stevedore, SaiShip, Triple J Wholesale, Yaong Corp., Dental Care, Luen Fung Ent., KKMP, National Office Supply, The Shack, Power 99, KZMI, Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic, Western Union, and Saipan Zoo.

"ARC would like to invite the community to come out and we encourage families to join this year's walkathon and thank everyone for their generosity to contribute to ARC," Hirsh said.



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# Mango Resort to give 100 prizes for its 1st birthday



Mango Resort Saipan's saltwater pool gives a relaxing feel of the ocean.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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(Cell No. 888-9290 Email Address: plebechamp80@gmail.com)

or Ben Sablan (Email Address: ben.sablan1994@gmail.com)

or Call 234-2585/235-9020

Mango Resort Saipan has just turned 1 year old and celebrates this month with a "Big Birthday Splash" promotion. The resort offers a month of special discounts and raffle prizes. For only \$79, one can get a night in one of Mango's Deluxe Rooms with a free early check-in and a free late check-out to spend two days at the resort's unique saltwater pools, and a chance to win one of the 100 raffle prizes the resort has prepared.

In March, every guest staying at The Mango or attending any private party at the resort will receive a raffle ticket. On April 6 Mango Resort will raffle off certificates for free room nights, Mango membership cards for Fitness & Pool, 5-visit pool cards, and more.

Mango Resort Saipan is

located in As Perdido, just a 2-minute drive from the Saipan International Airport. The only budget resort on Saipan opened its door in the spring of 2014.

Some of the Mango's unique features are the kitchenettes in the spacious rooms and the saltwater pools that give an ocean feel. Recently, Mango Resort added a private wing with 16 apartments with 1, 2, 3, and 4 bedrooms and a pool.

All rooms and apartments at The Mango have free Wi-Fi and satellite TV.

Elly Stoilova, director of Sales & Marketing at The Mango, says: "Our goal is to ensure our guests feel comfortable and relaxed, like at home away from home."

The Mango offer its guests a fitness room and a game room

with complimentary activities for adults and kids such as table tennis, billiard, darts, mini-basketball, air-hockey and other, as well as a sandy kids' playground.

Outdoor, the Mango pools and court area have become one of the most popular places for locals and tourists throwing a birthday party or a family reunion, or just to barbeque with family and friends in the open air.

The Mango offers special packages for guest rooms and conference room rentals and outdoor events.

For beach-lovers, Mango Resort offers a free shuttle bus to the shores of the very best beach on Saipan, in Chalan Kanoa village, just 5 minutes from the resort. (PR)



### COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Commonwealth Health Center North Wing Elevator 1 Project RFP15-GOV-038

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lieutenant Ralph DLG. Torres, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified contractors to repair/replace the North Wing Elevator 1 at the Commonwealth Health Center (CHC), Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package and scope of work will be available on Friday, February 20, 2015 at the Governor's CIP Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI. A non-refundable payment of \$50.00 is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the project package and scope of work.

A **mandatory** pre-proposal meeting will be held at the CHC Public Health conference room (first floor across the Volunteer's Gift Shop) on Wednesday, March 4, 2015, 10:00 a.m. Questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing to Carl Castro, Contracting Officer Technical Representative, CIP, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan or facsimile (670) 664-2408, no later than 4:00 p.m., ChST, March 11, 2015.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a project approach and a schedule of completion, addressing the scope of work requirements with details of how the work will be performed and accomplished. The total proposal length shall not exceed 15 pages in length. Note, a contractor that submits a proposal as a prime contractor cannot also submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, as a subcontractor may be included in multiple proposals by different contractors.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications and experience on similar projects	40%
2. Work load and resources to accomplish work in the required time frame	20%
3. Past performance with the CNMI Government on similar projects	20%
4. Cost	20%

Performance time to complete the repair/replacement of the CHC North Wing Elevator 1 project is 210 calendar days upon issuance of a Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed and shall be the greater of (i) One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by the number of calendar days of the contract time, the contract time and contract price being determined at the time of the assessment of liquidated damages for each and every day beyond the established completion date. Discussions shall be conducted with the top three (3) proposers. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified proposer to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The successful proposer will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Payment and Performance Bonds in the amount of 100% of the total contract amount will be required by the contractor prior to award of the contract.

Proposals must be sealed and marked RFP15-GOV-038-Commonwealth Health Center North Wing Elevator 1 Project. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and three (3) copies of the proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP, no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST, March 23, 2015 10:00 a.m. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of intent to propose. Notices of intent to propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST, March 23, 2015, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and three (3) copies of the sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, March 23, 2015, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than April 2, 2015. Failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/Eloy S. Inos, Governor

/s/Herman S. Sablan, Director  
Procurement & Supply



# Java Joe's turns 10 years old



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Java Joe's owners Manju Pandey, left, and her husband, Mahesh Thapa.

Java Joe's celebrates its 10th anniversary this Saturday with free refreshments offered from 9am until closing time.

The beloved coffee shop in Dandan will also offer 10-percent off on all drinks in March. They will also hold a raffle for \$10 to \$15 gift cards from customer receipts at the end of the month.

Aside from their customer favorite "Almond Rocca" and their other regular flavors, the coffee shop has new flavors for their blended drinks like avocado, aaro, vanilla bean, green tea, mint chip, honeydew, cantaloupe, coconut, melon, watermelon, blueberry frost and *buko pandan*.

Another new addition is their bubble tea—a freshly brewed green or black tea with tapioca and a customer's choice of flavor, from raspberry, strawberry cherry, mango, peach, kiwi, and more.

Manju Pandey, who runs Java Joes, bought the coffee shop in 2007, and has been there since.

"I really didn't have a clue," she said of her beginnings. "But over the years we learned."

The coffee shop is run with the help of Kathleen "Kath" Tolentino, and Pandey's husband, Mahesh Thapa, who brings over 20 years of experience in the hospitality industry in the U.S. and Australia to the coffee shop. He has worked with restaurants and hotels, serving burgers, wings, breakfast, many of which are also served at the shop.

Thapa said they aim to make their coffee shop a "second home for customers," where they can feel cozy and relaxed. "We never compromise with our service," he said. "From when we opened up until today."

Tolentino has been with Java Joe's even longer than Pandey, as a barista since it opened in 2005.

Pandey calls Tolentino "one of the best around." She's good

with everyone, she said. "I can depend on her."

Tolentino said working in coffee shops is her passion, as she was a barista in the Philippines even before she moved to Saipan.

"It's one of those things where even with my eyes closed, I can do," she said.

For all three of them, they know that the coffee shop leans on the loyal customers and staff throughout the years.

"We are willing to go the extra mile to meet their needs," Thapa said.

Pandey added that they were the "original" coffee place on island, and are "still here."

"Our best assets are our staff," she said. "Without them we wouldn't be here."

Pandey said since they've opened they've had the same range of customers, from kids to seniors, government professionals, to lawyers and police, among many others.

They tell her and Thapa that the "music is relaxing" and "not noisy." Thapa says your behavior will change once you enter the coffee shop. "Like entering the cinema," he added.

Pandey points to their "old-school" music jukebox that they let pick the music for the shop itself. Its jazzy, mellow, and soft sounds go well with the smell of their coffee beans freshly gathered from the island crop.

Thapa says that as soon as their Marianas coffee is roasted, it is at the shop. "It gives it that aroma," he said.

Java Joe's has been a regular participant in community and school events, donating gift certificates to many fundraisers.

And all through this time—for the most part—they've kept their prices the same, even through some of the rock bottoms the island has hit economically over the years.

Pandey says they've had the same prices for their items

since 2009.

She said costs for raw materials have risen but "we managed to be able to keep prices the same. We don't want to turn away students" or other customers, she added.

Tolentino said her bosses, Pandey and Thapa, also "do everything."

"They help," she said. "Unlike other bosses, they don't sit down, just observing."

Pandey and Thapa said maintaining their prices and keeping the shop open is all about "putting in the extra time" and dedication.

This, Thapa said, increases efficiency. "We are doing what we do, while people are raising prices and cutting corners. We are putting time in it, our hands in it."

Asked about growing competitors around the island, especially the large Mango Six that opened across the street, Thapa and Pandey said sales have interestingly been busier.

"Our product is out there and customers love it. We don't worry," Manju said.

She said they always ask for customer feedback.

"It's not a competition," she said. All the coffee shops on island offer something no one else does, she said.

"I hope we'll make it another 10, 20 years," she said.

CONGRATULATIONS

Java Joe's

SAIPAN

on your  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

Greetings from  
Hafa Adai!  
Saipan Tribune  
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Happy 10th  
Anniversary  
To Us!!!

Celebrate with us on March 7, 2015

Enjoy **10% discount** on all drinks from March 7 to 31, 2015!

Print your name, telephone number and fb account on the back of your receipts from March 7 to 31, 2015 and get a chance to win one of  
10 \$50 JAVA JOES GIFT CERTIFICATES  
that will be raffled on March 31, 2015 @ 10:00pm.  
Winners will be posted on our facebook wall account and will be contacted thru phone.

We are open from 6:30am to 10:00pm everyday  
across REVENUE/TAXATION BLDG.  
670.235.5098



Business

Exxon CEO: Get used to lower oil prices

NEW YORK (AP)—Exxon Mobil CEO Rex Tillerson expects the price of oil to remain low over the next two years because of ample global supplies and relatively weak economic growth.

“People need to kinda settle in for a while,” Tillerson said at the company’s annual investor conference in New York.

In a presentation to investors outlining its business plans through 2017, Exxon assumes a price of \$55 a barrel for global crude. That’s \$5 below where Brent crude, the most important global benchmark, traded on Wednesday. It’s about half of what Brent averaged between 2011 and the middle of last year.



The price of oil plunged in the second half of 2014 when it became apparent that production was outpacing global demand. The rise in U.S. production last year of 1.5 million barrels per day was the third largest in the history of the global oil industry, according to a recent report from BP.

Meanwhile, weakening economic conditions in China, Japan and Europe slowed the growth in oil demand.

BP CEO Bob Dudley made remarks similar to Tillerson’s in a recent call with investors. The CEOs’ comments reflect

an increasingly common industry view that new sources of oil around the globe, relatively slow growth in demand, and large amounts of crude in storage will keep a lid on prices for the foreseeable future.

“When you have that much storage out there, it takes a long time to work that off,” Dudley said.

The U.S. Energy Department reported Wednesday that U.S. oil supplies have grown to 444.4 million barrels, the highest level at least 80 years.

Tillerson cautioned that geopolitical turmoil could unexpectedly send prices higher. But he said that if tensions calm, much more oil is ready to hit the market.

Production in Libya has been erratic in recent years because of political upheaval there. Pro-

duction in Iran, once OPEC’s second largest exporter, has been depressed in recent years because of Western sanctions. Those sanctions could be eased if current talks over Iran’s nuclear program make progress.

“I see a lot of supply out there,” Tillerson said.

Exxon will be adding to that in the coming years, despite the low prices.

Exxon told investors Wednesday that 16 new production projects will begin producing oil and gas through 2017, helping the company increase production to 4.3 million barrels per day, up from 4 million barrels per day last year.

The company said it expects to spend less to develop new projects over the next three years, but mainly because prices that its suppliers charge have fallen considerably with the price of oil—not because it is cutting back exploring for oil and gas.

**BUSINESS BRIEFS**

**China lowers growth target, promises to open industries**  
BEIJING (AP)—China announced a lower economic growth target for this year and promised to open more industries to foreign investors as part of efforts to make its slowing, state-dominated economy more productive. The growth target of about 7 percent, down from last year’s 7.5 percent, was in line with efforts to create a “moderately prosperous society,” said Premier Li Keqiang in a report Thursday to China’s ceremonial national legislature. Actual economic growth last year was 7.4 percent, the lowest since 1990. The ruling Communist Party is trying to guide the world’s second-largest economy to slower but more self-sustaining growth based on domestic consumption and services, replacing a worn-out model driven by trade and investment in property and polluting industries.

**McDonald’s chicken gets new standard: No human antibiotics**  
NEW YORK (AP)—McDonald’s says it plans to require chicken suppliers to stop using antibiotics important to human medicine within two years. The company says its suppliers will still be able to use a type of antibiotic called ionophores that keeps chickens healthy and isn’t used in humans. Later this year, McDonald’s also said it will no longer serve milk from cows treated with a particular artificial growth hormone. Many cattle, hog and poultry producers give their livestock antibiotics to make them grow faster and ensure they are healthy. The practice has become a public health issue, with officials saying it can lead to germs becoming resistant to drugs so that the drugs are no longer effective in treating a particular illness in humans. Chipotle and Panera already say they serve chicken raised without antibiotics, but the announcement by McDonald’s is notable because of its size; the company has more than 14,000 U.S. locations. Chipotle has nearly 1,800 locations, while Panera has almost 1,900 locations.

Airlines are at it again, changing frequent-flier programs

Airlines continue to tinker with their frequent-flier programs, sometimes in ways that help business travelers but make it harder for occasional fliers to earn a free trip.

Frequent-flier programs started out simple: After flying enough trips or miles you earned a free flight, maybe to some exotic place. They built loyalty. But in the last few years, many airlines have changed their programs to reward high-spending customers.

“That’s going to come out of the hides of those travelers who are flying less frequently and flying on cheaper tickets,” says Tim Winship, editor of FrequentFlier.com. He says some travelers will need to ask themselves if it’s worth staying loyal to one airline just to earn miles.

Among the notable recent changes:

- United Airlines just changed MileagePlus program on Sunday to reward passengers based on spending. Elite-level frequent fliers will earn trips and upgrades even faster.
- Delta Air Lines, which shifted its SkyMiles program to a spending-based system in January, took away the charts showing the minimum number of points needed for various trips.
- Southwest Airlines, which went to a spending-based program in 2011, will change the number of points travelers need for some flights next month, but it’s not giving details.

“The airlines are getting a little bit brazen in watering down the programs and not even telling consumers how they will be affected,” says Brian Kelly, who writes about the programs as The Points Guy.

There are winners and losers in spending-based programs. At United, a passenger flying on the cheapest one-way fare from Los Angeles to New York used to earn the same miles as someone with a more

expensive ticket.

Now, in one example from a United flight later this month, the bargain hunter who pays a base fare of \$143.26 before taxes will score 716 miles while the traveler on a fully refundable ticket at a base fare of \$971.16 before taxes gets 4,856 miles.

In the past, both received 2,475 miles—the distance between the two cities.

Delta upset some frequent fliers with its decision to remove award charts from its website. Experts say the change makes it harder for consumers to know upfront how far their miles will go. (AP)

**Notice of Zoning Board Meeting**

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 5:00 PM, Multipurpose Center, Susupe  
(Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)

**A. Preliminary Matters**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of February 12, 2015 minutes
5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

**B. Public Hearings.**

1. **Conditional Use Application #2014-4550:** King’s International Corporation is proposing to operate dormitories with classrooms and office spaces. This use is classified as “Institutional Residential” and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal is located on lot 1821-R2 in Quartermaster, Chalan Pale Arnold, and is zoned as Mixed Commercial.
2. **Conditional Use Application #2015-0934:** Yong Fang Corporation is proposing to operate ATVs (All Terrain Vehicles) for outdoor activities. This use is classified as Outdoor, Amusement Intensive and will be utilizing lot TR 21914-R1 to store the vehicles and perform outdoor activities within the Mt. Tapochao areas. These areas are zoned as Rural.
3. **Conditional Use Application #2015-0937:** Let’s Go Tour company is proposing to operate UTVs (Utility Vehicles) for tours on public roads as well as outdoor activities. This use is classified as Outdoor, Amusement Intensive and will be utilizing an existing warehouse on part of Lot #025 E 01 to store the vehicles. From this start point in Lower Base, the applicant proposes various routes to reach the end/ turning points which include Bamboo Forest and Sabana in Mt. Tapochao areas, Jeffrey’s Beach in Talofofo, Obyan Beach, Naftan Point, Laolao Bay, or Forbidden Island.
4. **Conditional Use Application #2015-0919:** Best Sunshine Garapan Resort & Casino is proposing to operate a 4-storey Hotel and Casino Resort consisting of 52 rooms and 4 villas with amenities. This use is classified as a “Hotel” and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal will be situated on lots TR 21050, 21059, 21052, 21066, Lot #2 BLK 44 104 D04. These lots are located in Garapan between Joeten Hafadai Shopping Center and Orchid Street (Cpl. Derence Jack road). They are zoned as Tourist Resort.

**C. Communications/Reports**

**D. Old Business.**

1. None

**E. New Business**

1. Office Operations Report (Permit and Enforcement)

**G. Executive (Closed) Session.**

**E. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.**

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

**NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING**

for  
**Best Sunshine Garapan Resort & Casino**

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Best Sunshine Garapan Resort & Casino is proposing to operate a 4-storey Hotel and Casino Resort consisting of 52 rooms and 4 villas with amenities. This use is classified as a “Hotel” and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal will be situated on lots TR 21050, 21059, 21052, 21066, Lot #2 BLK 44 104 D04. These lots are located in Garapan between Joeten Hafadai Shopping Center and Orchid Street (Cpl. Derence Jack road). They are zoned as Tourist Resort.

**Date: March 19, Thursday**  
**Time: 5:00 pm**  
**Place: Multipurpose Center, Beach Road, Susupe**

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, March 18, 2015 or via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, or US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2008).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

JENNIFER DOCKTER  
LAW OFFICE OF F. MATTHEW SMITH, LLC  
2nd Floor, MIC Building,  
Chalan Monsignor Guerrero, San Jose Village  
P.O. Box 501127  
Saipan, MP 96950-1127  
Telephone Nos.: (670) 234-7455 / 7427  
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorney for Petitioner.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHRISTOPHER HENRY MANALO DEL ROSARIO, Deceased. ) Civil Action ) No. 15-0031 )  
 ) NOTICE OF )  
 ) HEARING and )  
 ) NOTICE TO )  
 ) CREDITORS )  
 ) Date: April 7, 2015 )  
 ) Time: 1:30 p.m. )  
 ) Judge: Honorable )  
 ) David A. Wiseman )

**TO: THE HEIRS, GENERAL PUBLIC AND CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENTS OR OF THEIR ESTATE**

Notice is hereby given that the Petitioner, Svetlana S. Del Rosario, has filed a Petition For Letters of Administration in the above-entitled Estate proceeding pursuant to Rule NMI R. of Prob. P. 15.

A hearing on the petition will be conducted by the Court on April 7, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 223, Superior Court. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at the hearing and show cause, if any, why the order should not be made.

Pursuant to NMI R. of Prob. P. 21, notice is hereby given to all creditors of the Decedent or his Estate that they must file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of the publication of this notice. A copy of the claim of any creditor should be sent to Jennifer Dockter at the above indicated address.

Reference is hereby made to the petition for further particulars.

SO NOTICED this 19th day of February 2015.

/s/ JENNIFER DOCKTER (F0465)  
Attorney for Petitioner

Name: Peter Joseph Nekaifes Somorang  
P.O. Box 501824 CK  
Saipan, MP 96950

Telephone No.: 234-1538

PRO SE

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

In the Matter of the ) FCD-AD )  
Adoption of: ) CIVIL ACTION )  
 ) NO. 15-0073 )  
Jake Taitano Somorang )  
Minor Child ) **NOTICE OF**  
 ) **HEARING** )  
By: )  
Lillia Rein Tataino )  
Somorang )  
Peter Joseph Nekaifes )  
Somorang )  
Petitioner(s) )

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on April 6, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 20th day of February, 2015.

Patrick V. Diaz  
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court



Nation

US clears officer in Ferguson case, criticizes police force

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Justice Department on Wednesday cleared a white former Ferguson, Missouri, police officer in the fatal shooting of an unarmed black 18-year-old, but also issued a scathing report calling for sweeping changes in city law enforcement practices it called discriminatory and unconstitutional.

The dual reports marked the culmination of months-long federal investigations into a shooting that sparked protests and a national dialogue on race and law enforcement as the tenure of Attorney General Eric Holder, the first black person to hold that office, draws to a close.

In pairing the announcements, the Obama administration sought to offset community disappointment over the conclusion that the shooting of Michael Brown was legally justified with a message of hope for Ferguson’s majority-black citizens. Officials announced 26 recommendations, including training officers in how to de-escalate confrontations and banning the use of ticketing and arrest quotas, for the police force and municipal court.

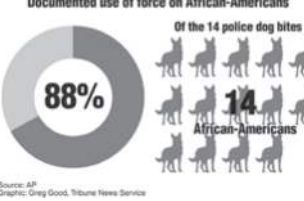
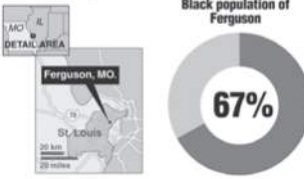
Holder called the federal report a “searing” portrait of a police department that he said functions as a collection agency for the city, with officers prioritizing revenue from fines over public safety and trouncing the constitutional rights of minorities.

“It is not difficult to imagine how a single tragic incident set off the city of Ferguson like a powder keg,” Holder said.

Ferguson Mayor James Knowles III said the city had cooperated with the Justice

The Ferguson report

A Justice Department investigation found discriminatory practices across the city’s criminal justice system, detailing problems from initial encounters with patrol officers to treatment in the municipal court and jail of African-Americans. Below are some of the findings.



Department and has made some changes, including a diversity training program for city employees. But the Rev. Al Sharpton, the chief eulogist at Brown’s funeral, countered that Knowles’ remarks—during a six-minute news conference where the mayor took no questions—were “mostly evasive, insignificant, and showed a total failure to address the need for a change in leadership at the police department.”

The decision not to prosecute Darren Wilson, the white officer who was cleared in November by a state grand jury and has since resigned, had been expect-

ed. To win a federal civil rights case, officials would have needed to prove that Wilson willfully deprived Brown of his rights by using unreasonable force.

Instead, the report found no evidence to disprove Wilson’s testimony that he feared for his safety during the Aug. 9 confron-

tation. Nor were there reliable witness accounts to establish that Brown had his hands up in surrender when he was shot, Justice Department lawyers said.

One of Wilson’s attorneys, Neil Bruntrager, said his client was satisfied with the outcome. Brown family lawyer Benja-

min Crump said the family was not surprised but disappointed. Brown’s uncle, Charles Ewing, said he believed Wilson was “getting away with it.”

“I really was hoping they would have come up with better findings because this whole thing just does not add up,” Ewing said.

While nights of protests over Wilson’s actions drew hundreds of protesters in recent months in Ferguson, only about 30 braved sub-freezing weather to gather Wednesday night outside the suburb’s police station, at times blocking traffic in defiance of police warnings to clear the road.

‘It WAS him’: Defense admits Tsarnaev bombed Boston Marathon

BOSTON (AP)—The question, for all practical purposes, is no longer whether Dzhokhar Tsarnaev took part in the Boston Marathon bombing. It’s whether he deserves to die for it.

In a blunt opening statement at the nation’s biggest terrorism trial in nearly 20 years, Tsarnaev’s own lawyer flatly told a jury that the 21-year-old former college student committed the crime.

“It WAS him,” said defense attorney Judy Clarke, one of the nation’s foremost death-penalty specialists.

But in a strategy aimed at saving Tsarnaev from a death sentence, she argued that he had fallen under the malevolent in-

fluence of his now-dead older brother, Tamerlan.

“The evidence will not establish and we will not argue that Tamerlan put a gun to Dzhokhar’s head or that he forced him to join in the plan,” Clarke said, “but you will hear evidence about the kind of influence that this older brother had.”

Three people were killed and more than 260 hurt when two shrapnel-packed pressure-cooker bombs exploded near the finish line on April 15, 2013. Tsarnaev, then 19, was accused of carrying out the attacks with 26-year-old Tamerlan, who was killed in a shootout and getaway attempt days later.

Authorities contend the

brothers—ethnic Chechens who arrived from Russia more than a decade ago—were driven by anger over U.S. wars in Muslim lands.

Federal prosecutors used their opening statements, along with heartbreaking testimony and grisly video, to sketch a picture of torn-off limbs, ghastly screams, pools of blood, and the smell of sulfur and burned hair in the streets of Boston. They painted Tsarnaev as a cold-blooded killer.

Tsarnaev planted a bomb designed to “tear people apart and create a bloody spectacle,” then hung out with his college buddies as if he didn’t have a care in the world, prosecutor William

Weinreb said.

“He believed that he was a soldier in a holy war against Americans,” Weinreb said. “He also believed that by winning that victory, he had taken a step toward reaching paradise.”

Among the first witnesses for the prosecution were two women who lost legs in the attack, including Rebekah Gregory, who walked slowly to the stand on an artificial limb.

“I remember being thrown back, hoisted into the air,” said Gregory, who had gone to watch the race with her 5-year-old son, Noah. “My first instinct as a mother was, where in the world was my baby, where was my son?”

### NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for  
**Yong Fang Corporation**

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Yong Fang Corporation is proposing to operate ATVs (All Terrain Vehicles) for outdoor activities. This use is classified as Outdoor, Amusement Intensive and will be utilizing lot TR 21914-R1 to store the vehicles and perform outdoor activities within the Mt. Tapochao areas. These areas are zoned as Rural.

**Date:** March 19, Thursday  
**Time:** 5:00 pm  
**Place:** Multipurpose Center, Beach Road, Susupe

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/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

### NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for  
**Let’s Go Tour Company**

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/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

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for  
**King’s International Corporation**

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**Time:** 5:00 pm  
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For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2008).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

#### PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

##### INVITATION TO BID

**ITB NO.: ITB 15-DOF/P&S-027**

**SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MARCH 23, 2015** **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

#### “SALE OF GOVERNMENT PERSONAL PROPERTIES”

COPIES OF THE INVITATION TO BID FORM MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**INSPECTION:** The government authorized an inspection of the property to determine the true condition of the item(s) to be sold. Purchaser is cautioned to inspect the item(s) and purchased the item(s) as is, where is.

/S/ LARISSA C. LARSON  
SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S

#### PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

##### INVITATION TO BID

**ITB NO.: ITB 15-DPS/SORNA-044**

**SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: APRIL 01, 2015** **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

#### “SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) STAND ALONE LIVE SCAN FINGERPRINT SYSTEM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY PROGRAM”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES C. DELEON GUERRERO  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S



# Asia

## US envoy to SKorea in stable condition after knife attack



U.S. Ambassador to South Korea Mark Lippert leaves a lecture hall for a hospital in Seoul, South Korea, Thursday, March 5, 2015 after being attacked by a man.

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—U.S. Ambassador Mark Lippert was in stable condition after being slashed on the face and wrist by a man wielding a 10-inch knife and screaming that the rival Koreas should be unified, South Korean police and U.S. officials said Thursday.

Media images showed a stunned-looking Lippert staring at his blood-covered left hand and holding his right hand over a cut on the right

side of his face, his pink tie splattered with blood.

The U.S. State Department condemned the attack, which happened at a performing arts center in downtown Seoul as the ambassador was preparing for a lecture about prospects for peace on the divided Korean Peninsula, and said Lippert's injuries weren't life threatening.

The U.S. Embassy said Lippert was in stable condition after surgery at a Seoul hospital.

YTN TV reported that the suspect—identified by police as 55-year-old Kim Ki-jong—screamed during the attack, “South and North Korea should be reunified.” The comments appear to reflect a bitter, lingering political division in South Korean society over the 1950-53 Korean War's legacy and the continuing split of the Korean Peninsula along the world's most heavily armed border.

## Microsoft co-founder says he found sunken Japan WWII warship

**TOKYO (AP)**—Microsoft co-founder and philanthropist Paul Allen and his research team have found the wreckage of a massive Japanese World War II battleship off the Philippines near where it sank more than 70 years ago, he said Wednesday.

The apparent discovery of the Musashi, one of the largest battleships in history, comes as the world marks the 70th anniversary of the war's end.

Allen and the team aboard his superyacht M/Y Octopus found the ship on Sunday, more than eight years after their search began, Allen said in a statement issued by his publicity agency, Edelman.

Detailed images captured by a high-definition camera mounted on an underwater probe confirmed the wreckage as that of the Musashi, it said. Allen said on his website that the video and still images showed a valve wheel with Japanese letters saying “main valve handle” which used to be in a lower engineering area, a catapult system used to launch planes, a large gun turret, and one of the ship's two 15-ton anchors. He said the team also found the ship's bow.

Japanese experts said they were eager to study the images to try to confirm the ship's identity.

Kazushige Todaka, head of a private museum specializing in the battleship Yamato, Musashi's sister vessel, said the details in the images matched those of the Musashi, which was the only battleship that sank in the area.

“Judging from the location, it must be the Musashi,” Todaka told NHK public television.

The Musashi, commissioned in 1942, sank in October 1944 in the Sibuyan Sea during the Battle of Leyte Gulf, losing about half of its 2,400 crew members. The ship was repeatedly hit by torpedoes and bombs dropped by planes from Allied aircraft carriers.

foreigners who are to be executed soon.

## World's oldest person wonders about secret to longevity too

**TOKYO (AP)**—The world's oldest person says 117 years doesn't seem like such a long time. Misao Okawa, the daughter of a kimono maker, made the comment Wednesday, at a celebration a day before her 117th birthday. Appropriately, she was wearing a pink kimono decorated with cherry blossom prints. Okawa, born in Osaka on March 5, 1898, was recognized as the world's oldest person by Guinness World Records in 2013. “It seemed rather short,” she said after Osaka government official Takehiro Ogura, who brought her a big bouquet, asked how she felt about living for 117 years.

# World

## Kerry pushes back on Israeli criticism of Iran nuke talks

**MONTREUX, Switzerland (AP)**—U.S. officials sought Wednesday to tamp down expectations of a substantial preliminary nuclear deal with Iran by the March deadline while working to move past the political dust kicked up by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's criticism of an emerging agreement's contours.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Washington was well aware of the potential nuclear danger Iran poses to countries in the region and will endorse only an agreement that seriously and verifiably crimps Tehran's ability to make atomic arms.

“We continue to be focused on reaching a good deal, the right deal, that closes off any paths that Iran could have towards fissile material for a weapon and that protects the world from the enormous threat that we all know a nuclear-armed Iran would pose,” Kerry told reporters at the end of meetings with Iranian Foreign Minister Moham-

mad Javad Zarif.

The Iranian diplomat told NBC News on Wednesday, “We believe that we are very close, very close.”

The sides hope to have a progress report by late March allowing them to finesse details into a final pact by June. But a senior U.S. official appeared to walk back from the significance of that first stage, describing it as only “an understanding that's going to have to be filled out with lots of detail” by the June final target date.

The official's comments could be an attempt to stretch the interpretation of what should be achieved by March, allowing further negotiations even if nothing more is achieved than a vague declaration.

They contrast sharply with what the West laid down earlier.

Justifying an extension of the talks on Nov. 24, Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond of

Britain—one of the five powers backing the U.S. at the talks—said he expected “an agreement on substance” by March. Western and Iranian negotiators said then they would use the time between March and June only “if necessary ... to finalize any possible remaining technical and drafting work.”

The U.S. official, who demanded anonymity in line with State Department rules, said President Barack Obama will make a call on whether to continue into June once he sees the March assessment from U.S. negotiators.

Playing down the prospects of any lasting damage to U.S.-Israeli ties caused by Netanyahu's speech to the joint houses of Congress Tuesday, the U.S. official said senior Israeli officials would be briefed by secure phone by top U.S. negotiators on the latest round.



Kerry

## Italy rescues more than 1,000 migrants at sea; 10 perish

**ROME (AP)**—In dramatic sea rescues north of Libya, a flotilla of ships saved more than 1,000 migrants and refugees, while 10 migrants perished in the southern Mediterranean, Italian officials said Wednesday.

Rescue vessels, including from Italy's coast guard and navy, and three cargo ships saved 941 people in seven separate operations that began Tuesday, Italy's coast guard said. On Wednesday, the coast guard and two cargo ships rescued 94 migrants whose motorized dinghy was in distress 40 miles (65 kms) north of Libya, the coast guard said.

Survivors were ferried to southern Italian ports. The migrants rescued Tuesday had been aboard five motorized dinghies

and two larger vessels. One of the larger boats capsized, and 10 bodies were spotted or plucked from the sea.

For months now, hundreds—sometimes thousands—of migrants fleeing conflicts or poverty have been reaching Italy practically weekly on smugglers' boats setting sail from Libya.

This year's pace has seen a sharp uptick from 2014's staggering count of 170,000 migrants and asylum-seekers rescued at sea by Italy's coast guard, navy and other vessels including cargo ships.

The Interior Ministry says 7,882 migrants arrived on Italian coasts in the first two months of this year, compared to 5,506 in that period in 2014.

The coast guard said the

migrants saved in the latest rescues claimed to be Syrians, Palestinians, Libyans, Tunisians and people from sub-Saharan Africa.

More than 30 children were among those rescued. One of the 50 pregnant women aboard was urgently evacuated for medical treatment.

A tug deployed at offshore oil platforms raised one of the first alarms, and then joined in the rescue operations about 50 miles north of Libya, the coast guard said.

For years, Italy has been appealing to the European Union to help ships, aircraft or funding. It points out that most of those rescued intend to reach relatives or jobs in other European countries.

## Coal mine blast kills at least 24 in war-torn east Ukraine

**DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)**—A rebel-held city scarred by months of conflict in eastern Ukraine suffered more tragedy Wednesday when a methane gas explosion in a coal mine killed at least 24 workers and left nine missing.

As rescue efforts stretched past sundown, separatist authorities were accused by Ukraine's government of failing to do enough to save the lives of the miners.

The blast occurred before dawn more than 1,000 meters (3,200 feet) underground at the Zasyadko mine in the city of Donetsk in the coal-rich Donbass region. Nearly a year of

bitter fighting by pro-Moscow rebels and Ukrainian troops in the east has killed more than 6,000 people.

Rebel officials said the accident was caused by the ever-present danger of methane gas, rather than artillery fire.

There were contradictory accounts of the toll of dead and missing by the rival authorities. The rebel government that controls Donetsk was slow to divulge information, while a senior official in the capital of Kiev was swift to give a death toll of 32, only to retract it several hours later.

The blast occurred as 230 workers were in the mine, and

nearly 200 of them were quickly evacuated, but uncertainty lingered throughout the day about dozens of others.

Rebel officials insisted into the afternoon that only one person had died. But a slightly wounded miner who gave his name only as Sergei told The Associated Press that he saw five bodies being pulled out.

By nightfall, Yuliana Bedilko, a representative for the rebel-managed rescue services at the site of accident, said another 23 bodies had been located below ground, bringing the overall number of confirmed dead to 24.



### ASIAN BRIEFS

## Australia offers Indonesia prisoner swap to stop executions

**CANBERRA, Australia (AP)**—Australia has offered Indonesia a prison swap deal in an 11th hour bid to save the lives of two Australian drug smugglers who have been transferred to an island prison where they are to be killed by firing squad within days. Foreign Minister Julie Bishop said on Thursday she made the proposal to her Indonesian counterpart Retno Marsudi who had agreed to convey it to President Joko “Jokowi” Widodo. Bishop said she had yet to hear back. The Australian newspaper reported Bishop had offered to repatriate three convicted Indonesian drug criminals in return for the lives of the Australians, Andrew Chan and Myuran Sukumaran. The Australians are among nine



# Science & Technology

## Internet invades everything at gadget fair in Barcelona

By JOSEPH WILSON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**BARCELONA, Spain (AP)**—The pervasive creep of the Internet from computers and phones to all kinds of objects is the theme of this year's edition of the Mobile World Congress wireless show.

For those who couldn't join the tens of thousands in Barcelona for the four-day event, here is a look at some of the quirkiest innovations on display.

### PRESTO PIZZA

Pizza Hut has two new ways to make sure nobody waits too long for a pie.

Italian inventors La Comanda have reduced the distance to your favorite pizza to a simple trip to your fridge. There, you just reach up and slap the magnet-held timing device, holding the round button down a few seconds, and presto! The pizza is on its way to you.

The Click'N'Pizza will go on sale this summer in Canada and will work to order Pizza Hut products. The price has not yet been set. CEO Carlo Brianza says the technology could be used with other chain restaurants.

Visa is also testing a program with Pizza Hut for making payments from the car. You order ahead of time, and a system of sensors will let restaurant staff know when you arrive. Em-



AP  
A worker shows a visitor the e-bike from Ford at the Mobile World Congress, the world's largest mobile phone trade show in Barcelona, Spain, Wednesday, March 4, 2015.

ployees can bring your order to your parking space, as the sensors would know where you are.

Eventually, this system could be used to pay for gas, tolls and parking. With parking, the system would know when you're in that spot and calculate to the minute how long you've been there.

Visa will start a pilot program in coming months in Northern California. It might take years for gas stations, parking lots and tollbooths to get the necessary sensors.

### EASY RIDERS

Riding a bicycle to work sounds great, until you arrive drenched

in sweat.

That's one reason Ford is experimenting with improving electric bicycles.

The car company unveiled two electric bikes— one for regular city travel and one for commercial use for messengers or delivery—that connect to smartphones through Bluetooth, as well as physically via a mounted dock.

An associated smartphone application plans your route and the bike indicates when you need to turn by vibrating the right or left hand grip. If both vibrate, look out: it means a car is close behind.

The bikes can be connected to a Bluetooth heart-rate monitor that can increase the bike's motor power to let you rest if overexerted. They can also be programmed to let you cool down during the final stretch of your journey.

"We are in an experimental phase" said Eric Klampfl, Global Future Mobility Manager for Ford Research and Innovation Center. So interested cyclists will have to wait.

### SCANNING FOR LIFE FORMS

Star Trek fans now only lack a phaser after tech company Consumer Physics has pretty much made the "tricorder" a reality.

The Israeli company says its SCiO handheld scanner can analyze the molecular makeup of any object that it has in its growing database.

It says the tiny device, which it hopes can be installed directly in a smartphone, can do the work currently limited to a spectrometer in a laboratory.

The small scanner works via a Bluetooth connection with a smartphone, which it turn compares the data received from an object with a cloud-based database.

Co-founder Dror Sharon demonstrated how the SCiO identifies different kinds of fruit, the nutritional content of cheese, verifies vitamins and even distinguishes between brand, generic and counterfeit Viagra.

The SCiO can be pre-ordered online for \$250 dollars and will be on market in June.

### ANTI-TAG GLASSES

Hate turning up tagged in Facebook photos?

AVG has the trick. The Inter-

net security firm has invented a pair of glasses designed to thwart facial recognition technologies used by some social media networks to automatically identify people in uploaded photographs.

AVG spokeswoman Stephanie Kane says the company has dubbed the goggles its "Invisibility Glasses," but that they are only in the early stages of an experimental prototype.

### BAD TEETH BEWARE

Brushing teeth has never been synonymous with fun.

But Oral-B has at least spiced it up a bit by making an enhanced electric toothbrush that works with an application on your smartphone.

The app times your brushing, with a graphic display showing which areas of the mouth to focus your efforts on. It warns you if you are brushing too hard.

A new version will allow you to program a plan recommended by a dentist, for example, to whiten teeth or protect damaged gums.

Already on sale in the U.S., it will be available in 56 countries in July.

The price for a perfect smile? Around \$150.

### TECH Q&A

## Listeners don't always get stereo on the Internet

By STEVE ALEXANDER  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**Q: I listen to Internet radio at night with my Toshiba PC, using Auvio earphones. I recently noticed that I'm not getting stereo anymore on the religious stations I listen to, whether I use iTunes or Windows Media Player. The headphones seem to work fine on other devices, just not on the PC.**

**I've checked the PC's speakers and software, and they all seem to be set to stereo. My audio driver software also is up to date and working properly. What's wrong?—Mark Ortego, Baton Rouge, La.**

**A:** I don't think your earphones or PC are the problem. Instead, I suspect that the Internet radio stations you listen to are streaming audio at too low a quality to produce decent stereo sound in your headphones. Your PC software adapts to that situation by sending your earphones a mono (monaural) signal in which both earpieces deliver the same sound.

What's the problem? Online radio stations don't all offer the same audio quality; it var-

ies depending on the amount of data they transmit over the Internet. This is measured in bits per second, also known as the "bit rate." As a general rule, an Internet radio station transmitting both voice and music must stream its audio at 36,000 to 40,000 bits per second to produce even modest quality stereo sound for listeners.

But some religious Internet radio stations use bit rates that are at or below the threshold needed for stereo sound reproduction, such as 40,000 bits per second down to 24,000 bits per second. Cost is probably the reason. Internet radio stations must pay for the data transmitting capacity they use (called bandwidth), and they can save money by streaming their audio at a lower bit rate that sends less data.

Try some stations that have bit rates of at least 64,000 bits per second (also called 64 kilobits per second, or 64 kbps) to see if you can get stereo sound. For a list of some religious Internet stations and their bit rates, see [tinyurl.com/785zaca](http://tinyurl.com/785zaca). Google a station to find it online.

**Q: I accidentally lost some important information from the Notes app on my iPhone**

**6 by choosing "select all," then "delete." And, because my iPhone and Macintosh computer are connected by Apple's iCloud service, the mistake was duplicated on the Mac. Is there any way to retrieve the mistakenly deleted data?—Rafael Coloca, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.**

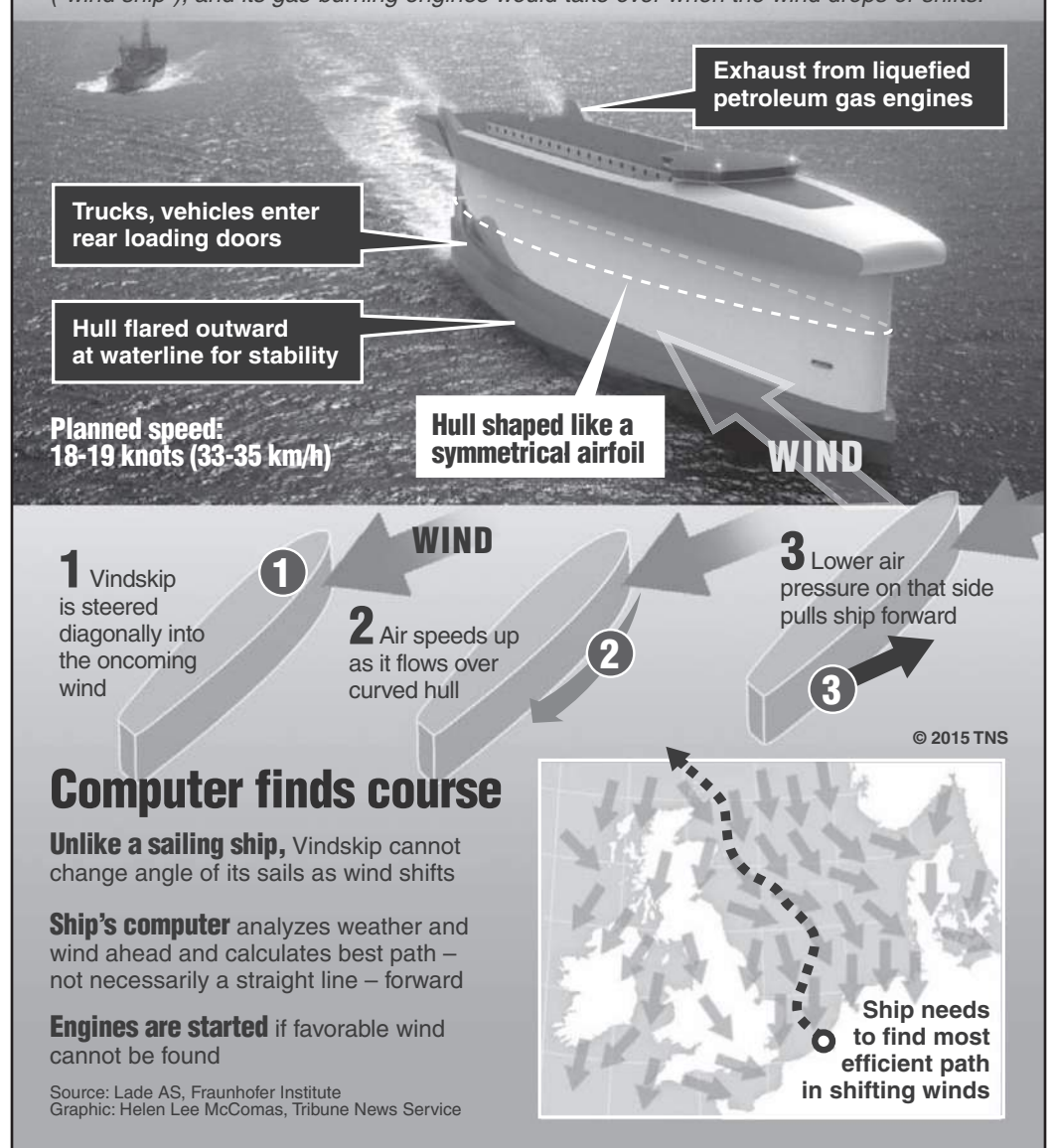
**A:** There are a couple of ways to recover deleted iPhone Notes items. If you have previously backed up your iPhone to your Mac (or PC), you can use iTunes to recover just the Notes portion of that backup and store it on the phone again (see [tinyurl.com/kuwqmaa](http://tinyurl.com/kuwqmaa)). There are also recovery programs for PC or Mac that can retrieve deleted Notes items directly from the iPhone, such as PhoneRescue (\$50, see [tinyurl.com/ozulfjn](http://tinyurl.com/ozulfjn) and [tinyurl.com/q9aotxk](http://tinyurl.com/q9aotxk)) or MobiSaver (free, see [tinyurl.com/p32zsfb](http://tinyurl.com/p32zsfb)).

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### Science Matters

## A wind-propelled cargo ship

Air moving over its tall, curved hull will propel the Norwegian-designed Vindskip ("wind ship"), and its gas-burning engines would take over when the wind drops or shifts.



### Computer finds course

Unlike a sailing ship, Vindskip cannot change angle of its sails as wind shifts

Ship's computer analyzes weather and wind ahead and calculates best path — not necessarily a straight line — forward

Engines are started if favorable wind cannot be found

Source: Lade AS, Fraunhofer Institute  
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

© 2015 TNS



# Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Feeling flush? Find bathrooms for bus drivers for \$97,000

SEATTLE (AP)—It's a job that might make you flush: Find easily accessible restrooms for Seattle-area bus drivers and get paid nearly \$100,000 a year. Bus service provider King County Metro Transit is looking to hire a "comfort station coordinator," which comes with an annual salary as high as \$97,000, depending on experience. Metro Transit spokesman Jeff Switzer tells KOMO television station in Seattle that the agency has a legal obligation to find access to bathrooms for the 2,600 drivers who keep the community moving. The state Department of Labor and Industries cited Metro Transit last November after an audit found drivers were not provided unrestricted access to restrooms and some wore diapers.

Restaurant pays 101-year-old for his birthday breakfast

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP)—A restaurant's policy to give customers a percentage off their bill on their birthday actually became a 7-cent refund for man who turned 101. Joseph Nelson, who celebrated a birthday breakfast at the Belmont Hall and Restaurant in Manchester on Monday, told

WMUR-TV he never thought he'd live this long. The restaurant's policy is that customers get a percentage taken off the bill on their birthday based on their age. At 101 years old, the restaurant owed Nelson money. Nelson ate scrambled eggs and ham, topped off with a piece of chocolate cake.

New Mexico couple gets engaged, then stranded on mountaintop

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—An ecstatic New Mexico couple who got engaged on top of Sandia Peak had to curtail their celebrations after getting stuck for hours because of high winds. KOB-TV in Albuquerque reports that Arthur Edelhoff and Lindsay Duncan of Corrales took the tram up the mountaintop early Sunday evening. After taking happy engagement photos, the couple were told that they had to wait for the 40-mph wind to die down before they could return. Jay Blackwood, the assistant manager of the Sandia Peak Tram, says around 140 people were stranded for about four hours. Edelhoff says they didn't get off the mountain until 10:30 p.m.

Texan arrested with sword in cane, tried to visit jailed son

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—A San

Antonio man trying to visit his jailed son also landed behind bars after being caught with a combination cane and 2-foot sword. The Bexar County Sheriff's Office says 53-year-old Jose Gonzalez faces a charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon. Sheriff's spokesman James Keith said Wednesday that the cane, with a handle fashioned like the head of a snake, was confiscated. Keith says the father was able to walk through a scanner on Monday without needing the cane, which went through another security device. An alarm went off. An officer twisted off the top of the cane and drew out the sword, and the father was arrested. Jail records Wednesday did not list the father as still in custody. Details weren't immediately available on the son's name or charges.

Court: Man burned by fajitas while praying can't sue eatery

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—A New Jersey appellate court says a man cannot seek damages for burns he suffered while bowing his head in prayer over a sizzling steak fajita skillet at a restaurant. The ruling made public Wednesday upheld a lower court ruling that dismissed his lawsuit. The man claimed a waitress didn't warn him the

dish was hot, but the lower court found the food posed an "open and obvious" danger. It happened in 2010 at an Applebee's in Burlington County. The man said he bowed his head, then heard a loud sizzle followed by a grease pop. He then felt a burning sensation in his left eye and on his face. The man said he panicked and knocked the food on his lap, causing more burns. The burns didn't cause scarring.

Bill to make 'Hang on Sloopy' Ohio's rock song passes House

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—A proposal to make "Hang On Sloopy" Ohio's official rock song has struck the right note with state representatives. The Ohio House voted 82-13 to pass the measure Wednesday, sending it to the state Senate for consideration. The 1960s hit was written by Wes Farrell and Bert Russell and has been a crowd favorite for decades at Ohio State University games. The university's marching band first performed it in 1965. Pro sports events around the state also use it. The Legislature recognized "Sloopy" as the state's official rock song in the 1980s, though the honor apparently wasn't enshrined in law. The House passed a bill to designate the tune as Ohio's rock song in the last session, but the Senate

didn't consider it.

Malfunctioning Miami Beach welcome sign sends mixed message

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP)—A sign welcoming tourists to Miami Beach briefly offered visitors a confusing message. The flashing, portable sign along the Julia Tuttle Causeway on Tuesday read: "Welcome visitors! Prohibited." It was supposed to flash this message on three different screens: "Welcome visitors! Prohibited on the beach: glass, metal, alcohol and Styrofoam." By Tuesday evening, city officials had apologized for the error and the sign was removed to be corrected. City spokeswoman Nannette Rodriguez told the Miami Herald that Miami Beach certainly welcomes visitors. She offered apologies to anyone who was offended.

Emu jumps fence, escapes from farm when noise spooks bird

GREENVILLE, N.C. (AP)—An emu jumped a fence and escaped from a farm in North Carolina when it was spooked by a loud piece of farm equipment. Owner Melvin Smith tells WITN in Greenville that the emu jumped a fence Tuesday. Smith takes care of the bird for his mother, who is in a nursing

home. His wife says the emu is 24 years old and is the only remaining emu from a massive farm Smith ran in the 1980s. At its height, there were 3,000 emus on the farm. After he got out of emu farming, Smith's mother kept one male, who has since died, and one female. Emus are the world's second-largest bird behind the ostrich.

Firefighters rescue dog trapped in gap between walls

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP)—Los Angeles County firefighters got creative to rescue a dog that had fallen into a six-inch-wide gap in West Hollywood, California. Inspector Randall Wright says a dozen firefighters were called to the scene Monday afternoon. They found a 60-pound dog wedged upside down between a house wall and a retaining wall. Wright says every time the dog whimpered, he slid further. Firefighters couldn't just pull him out, so they improvised. They slid a pole under the dog, tied webbing ropes to his front paws, soaped up his fur and pulled. They wriggled the dog out far enough to grab his back paws. A few tugs, and the pooch was free. Wright says the dog appeared healthy, and neighbors returned him to his family. It's unclear how he got stuck.

Message of Appreciation

We are sincerely grateful for your prayers, generosity and contributions during this difficult time for our family.

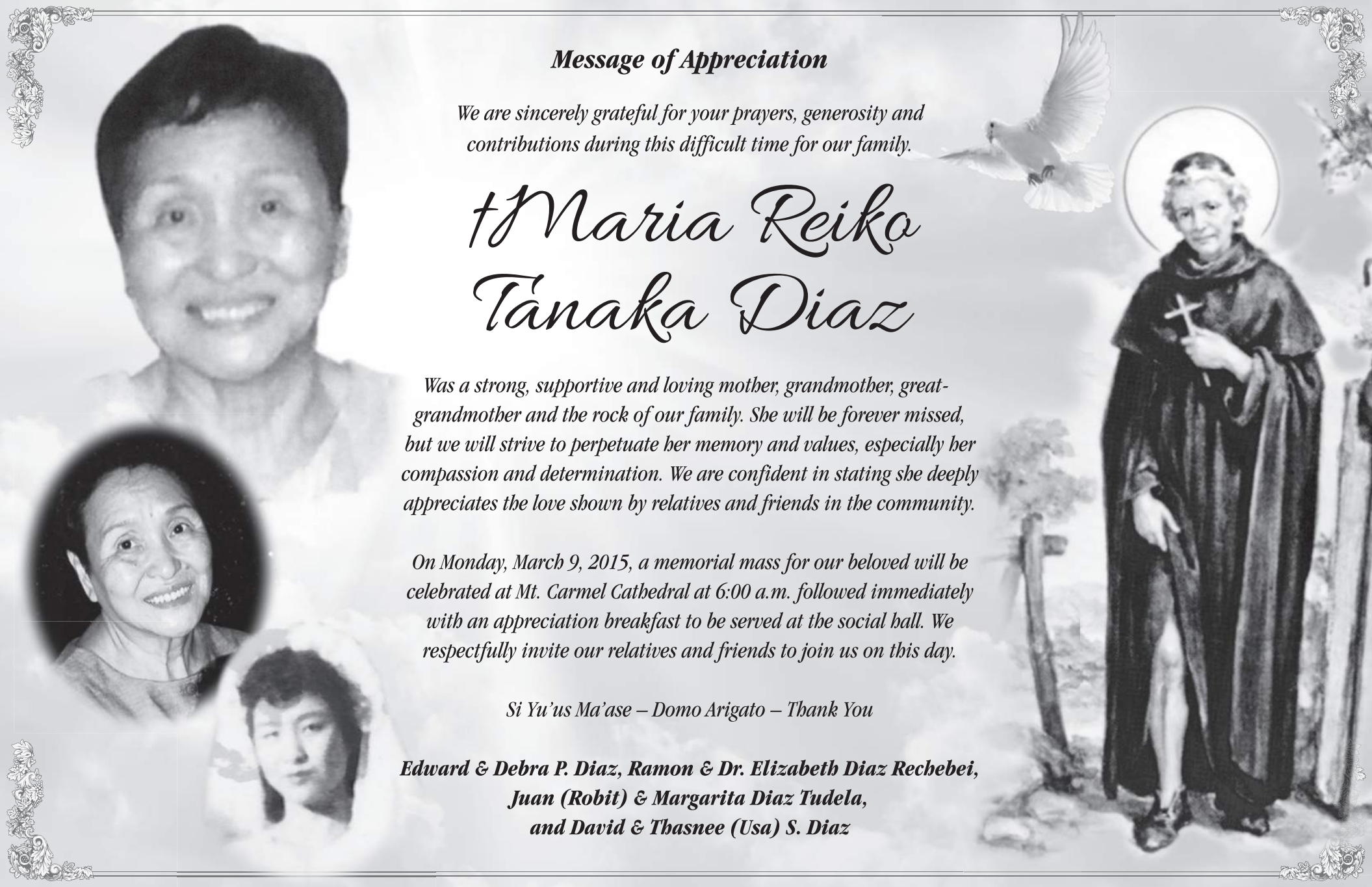
† Maria Reiko Tanaka Diaz

Was a strong, supportive and loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and the rock of our family. She will be forever missed, but we will strive to perpetuate her memory and values, especially her compassion and determination. We are confident in stating she deeply appreciates the love shown by relatives and friends in the community.

On Monday, March 9, 2015, a memorial mass for our beloved will be celebrated at Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 6:00 a.m. followed immediately with an appreciation breakfast to be served at the social hall. We respectfully invite our relatives and friends to join us on this day.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase – Domo Arigato – Thank You

Edward & Debra P. Diaz, Ramon & Dr. Elizabeth Diaz Rechebei, Juan (Robit) & Margarita Diaz Tudela, and David & Thasnee (Usa) S. Diaz





# Life & Style

## Pharrell tells jury he didn't copy Gaye music for hit song

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Pharrell Williams told a jury Wednesday that he was trying to evoke the feel of Marvin Gaye's music but did not copy the late singer's work when he crafted the 2013 hit "Blurred Lines."

Williams said he grew up listening to Gaye's music and was familiar with his song "Got to Give It Up," but did not use it as a basis for "Blurred Lines," which was a hit for him and collaborators Robin Thicke and T.I.

"He's one of the ones we look up to," Williams said. "This is the last place I want to be."

Williams, Thicke and T.I. are being sued by Gaye's children who claim "Blurred Lines" infringes their father's copyrights for 1977's "Got to Give It Up," but Williams' testimony is crucial because he wrote the song's music and most of its lyrics. Although Thicke received a songwriting credit on the song, he acknowledged earlier in the trial that he didn't do much work on the song.

T.I.'s rap track was added later, and Williams said he wasn't involved in its inclusion in "Blurred Lines," which was nominated for a Grammy Award. T.I., whose real name is Clifford Harris, is expected to be among the case's final witnesses on Thursday.

Williams spent more than an hour describing his musical process and how he crafted "Blurred Lines" in mid-2012 in between working on tracks with Miley Cyrus and rapper Earl Sweatshirt. Thicke arrived after

the music and lyrics had been written, Williams recalled. He quickly brought the singer up to speed and they began recording what would become 2013's biggest hit song.

"We were bopping and dancing," Williams recalled. "It was a cool night."

His answers were sometimes too lengthy for U.S. District Judge John A. Kronstadt, who cut off Williams several times mid-sentence and didn't allow him to elaborate on some of his answers.

"Blurred Lines" has earned more than \$16 million in profits and more than \$5 million apiece for Thicke and Williams, according to testimony offered earlier in the trial.

Williams said after the song was released, he saw similarities between "Blurred Lines" and Gaye's work but said that wasn't a conscious part of his creative process.

Richard S. Busch, who represents the Gaye family, asked Williams whether he felt "Blurred Lines" captured the feel of the era in which Gaye recorded.

"Feel," Williams responded. "Not infringed."

The case opened last week and featured testimony from Thicke, who told jurors that he took a songwriting credit on "Blurred Lines" despite Pharrell doing most of the work.

Thicke brought a bit of showmanship to a trial that has focused on minute details of chords and sheet music. He

AP  
Pharrell Williams leaves Los Angeles Federal Court after testifying at trial in Los Angeles, Wednesday, March 4, 2015.

performed elements of "Blurred Lines" and hits by U2 and The Beatles to show how different songs can include similar-sounding musical elements.

Williams did not perform any music during his more than hour of testimony, and complained that audio comparisons of "Blurred Lines" and "Got to Give It Up" had been created in a way that made them sound similar.

Despite the lack of vocals on the tracks, Thicke bobbed his head while his hit was played.

The trial has included detailed analysis of snippets of chords and notes from both songs, all created in the same key. Jurors have heard "Blurred Lines" and lawyers for Gaye's family wanted the panel to hear "Got to Give It Up," but Kronstadt has limited how the song can be presented in court. Rulings state Gaye's song can only be played as it appears in a sheet music submitted to get the song copyright protection.

Williams' career as an artist-producer has been booming in recent years, with the singer performing his hit "Happy" at the 2014 Oscars just weeks after winning three Grammy Awards for his work with Daft Punk.

He also serves as a judge on the NBC competition show "The Voice."



## Jane Fonda says male domination of world has been 'wounded'

**UNITED NATIONS** (AP)—Jane Fonda said Wednesday the male power structure that has dominated the world for centuries has been wounded—but there's nothing more dangerous than a wounded beast.

The actress and women's rights activist spoke in a telephone interview ahead of U.N. meetings next week to assess progress toward women's equality. She said "the most intractable problem that humanity faces is the problem of patriarchy," which she partly blames for the rise in terrorism and the destruction of the environment.

She said patriarchy is very entrenched, which has made it difficult for women fighting for real equality to challenge it, though she says women have made inroads.

Male power is "wounded now but there's nothing more dangerous than a wounded beast, thrashing about, flailing its tail with the barbs on it, and a lot of people are really getting hurt badly," she said.

Fonda said this challenge to male power has not only had an impact on terrorism and the en-

vironment but has affected women demanding equality because "there's a lot of guys who won't stand for it."

"So we have to be constantly reminded of how far we've come and how far we still have to go," she said,

and that's why she will be at the U.N. on March 12 to help launch a campaign by the women's rights group Equality Now urging all governments to repeal or amend all gender discrimination laws.

Fonda, a longtime supporter of the group, said just over half the laws it highlighted in 1999 have been revised, appealed or amended, but there is no excuse for less than 100 percent.

Changing laws "is a huge step forward" and helps empower victims, she said, but to achieve equality many other things are needed as well.

"You need women elected to office, you need movements in the streets, you need social media, you need every single form of social protest and speaking truth to power that's possible," Fonda said.



Fonda

And a woman leader must lead "as a woman and not as a man in skirts" who thinks she needs to prove she's not weak, she said.

Her value "is to bring her woman-ness to her leadership style" which means empathy, compassion and "someone whose head and heart are not bifurcated," she said.

Fonda said it took her a long time to understand what the women's movement was about and what feminism meant, and she will be fighting for equality for the rest of her life not only with Equality Now but with V-Day, a movement to stop violence against women, and the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power and Potential which she founded in 2001.

But Fonda hasn't given up on acting: She will be starring in director Paolo Sorrentino's movie "Youth in Venice" with Michael Caine and Harvey Keitel, which will be released this year. And she said she's gearing up for a second season of the Netflix series "Grace and Frankie" with Lily Tomlin.

## In Humble Gratitude



We, the family of the late

## †Rufina Celis Delos Santos Atalig

wish to extend our deepest and warmest appreciation to all our relatives and friends for the genuine compassion you have showed us during our greatest and most painful time of sorrow. Your thoughtful prayers, comforting words, and unending support to include other considerate acts of grace did much to calm the ache in our hearts and with time may our pain lessen as memories gently turn tears to smiles. We would like to acknowledge and cherish the time you devoted to us, your kindness has touched us all and we will forever remember you. To our techa for the rosary Ms. Marcy Cepeda, members of the San Vicente Parish, and countless others un sinceru yan dangkulu na si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Masen magof ham para in ekstende un sinceru yan dangkulu na si yu'us ma'ase pot I tinayuyot yan finatton-miyu ginen I diuranten I piniten mami. In sen agradesi todus hamyu yan talu un dangkulu na si yu'us ma'ase ginen I familian I difunta as

†Rufina Celis Delos Santos Atalig

April 6th, 1947 – February 20th, 2015



# 'Guardians of the Galaxy' tops MTV Movie Awards noms

LOS ANGELES (AP)—And you thought Hollywood's award season was over.

A teenage tearjerker, a foul-mouthed coed comedy and a raucous space adventure featuring a talking tree lead the nominees for the 2015 MTV Movie Awards, airing live on April 12 from the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles.

MTV announced Wednesday that "The Fault in Our Stars," "Neighbors," and "Guardians of the Galaxy" all have seven shots at winning a golden popcorn trophy at the annual awards ceremony, which in recent years has also become a platform for the studios to promote their big summer releases.

"22 Jump Street" and "Whiplash" followed with five nods each in a slate that includes movies as diverse as "American Sniper," "Gone Girl," and "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay—Part 1."

Comedian Amy Schumer will host the irreverent show,



This file image released by 20th Century Fox shows Ansel Elgort, left, and Shailene Woodley appear in a scene from "The Fault In Our Stars."

which hands out prizes such as best villain, best WTF moment,

best kiss, and best shirtless performance.

Fans can vote online for their favorites.

## Bruce Willis to star on Broadway in play of King's 'Misery'

NEW YORK (AP)—Bruce Willis will make his Broadway debut this fall in a tale of torture and suspense—a stage adaptation of Stephen King's novel "Misery."

Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures said Wednesday the "Die Hard" star will star opposite Elizabeth Marvel in the story of a murderous fan united with her beloved romance novelist.

William Goldman has once again adapted the book. His previous film adaptation, based



Willis

Caan and Kathy Bates, who won an Academy Award.

Dates and a theater will be announced later.

The action takes place in a

lonely, snow-encased town. While driving on an icy road, novelist Paul Sheldon skids, crashes and is pinned in his car, with his new manuscript tucked away in his nearby briefcase.

Annie Wilkes, his so-called No. 1 fan in the world, finds him, frees him from the car and takes him to her home to nurse him back to health. All is fine until she reads the new book in which the author has killed off a heroine named Misery who has appeared in a string of romances.

Sheldon is faced with his biggest challenge ever—to revive Misery and write another novel. In the process, he must figure out how to outsmart his captor and escape.

The play will be directed by Will Frears.

Marvel's other Broadway credits include "Picnic" and "Other Desert Cities."

King hasn't had much success on Broadway, with his "Carrie" in 1988 considered a legendary flop.

## DiCaprio partners with Netflix for series of documentaries

NEW YORK (AP)—Leonardo DiCaprio is partnering with Netflix for a series of documentaries he will produce for the streaming service.

Netflix announced Wednesday that DiCaprio and his production company, Appian Way, have signed a first-look deal with Netflix for nonfiction projects. The company says Di-

Caprio and Netflix will seek to develop and acquire documentaries and docuseries "with partial focus on environmental and conservation themes."

DiCaprio teamed with Netflix last year to release the Oscar-nominated documentary "Virunga." In a statement, DiCaprio said "Virunga" "sparked a shared vision" be-

tween him and the streaming service.

The deal adds to a growing stable of Hollywood talent Netflix has lured to its expanding original film operations. Along with an earlier deal with Adam Sandler, Netflix recently acquired "Beasts of No Nation" by "True Detective" director Cary Fukunaga.



DiCaprio

## Shania Twain to launch final tour in June

NEW YORK (AP)—Shania Twain will launch her final tour this summer.

Twain announced Wednesday that she would kick off her Rock This Country Tour on June 5 in Seattle. She will perform 48 shows and wrap the tour on Aug. 23 in Fresno, California.

It is her first North American tour in over a decade.

Twain will perform in New

York, Los Angeles and Chicago. She will also visit Canada for shows in Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal.

Twain completed a two-year residency at The Colosseum at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. The singer, whose hits include "You're Still the One" and "That Don't Impress Me Much," is one of the top-selling acts in music.

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Elizabeth McCracken wins \$20,000 short story prize

NEW YORK (AP)—Elizabeth McCracken, a fiction writer praised for her sharply detailed stories of grief and disaster, has won a \$20,000 prize. McCracken won the Story Prize for her collection "Thunderstruck," award officials announced Thursday night. Her other books include the novel "The Giant's House" and the memoir "An Exact Replica of a Figment of My Imagination." The two finalists Thursday, Lorrie Moore for "Bark" and Francesca Marciano for "The Other Language," will each receive \$5,000. The Story Prize, underwritten by the nonprofit Chisholm Foundation, was established in 2004 and honors the author "of an outstanding collection of short fiction." Previous winners include Mary Gordon, Anthony Doerr and George Saunders.

### Dubai to curate next hot thing in 'Museum of the Future'

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—The flashy Gulf city with a skyline that looks like something out of a science fiction movie is embracing its love of all things new with plans for a "Museum of the Future." Emirati Minister of Cabinet Affairs Mohammed al-Gergawi told reporters Wednesday the museum in Dubai will showcase innovations in design and technology, in fields such as transportation, health and education. The \$136 million project is expected to open in 2017. The curving, oblong—and of course futuristic-looking—building will feature poetry written by the Dubai Ruler Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, who is also the Emirati prime minister. Al-Gergawi said the museum aims to change its exhibits every six months to keep pace with changing technology, with a goal "to always be 10 years ahead of today."

### Glen Campbell children fighting wife's control of affairs

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)—Singer Glen Campbell's two oldest children are attempting to wrest control of his medical and financial decisions from his wife, Kim Campbell. Debby Campbell-Cloyd and Travis Campbell say Kim Campbell is keeping their father "secluded from the rest of the family" which has been "prohibited from participating in his care and/or treatment," according to a petition filed in a Nashville court in January. The petition asks a judge to appoint conservators and a guardian to protect Glen Campbell's interest. It was filed under seal, but a copy was sent to The Associated Press. The County Music Hall of Fame member is in the late stages of Alzheimer's and living at a long-term care facility. Kim Campbell referred questions to her attorney, who did not comment because of the seal.

## American family's face of the future is multiracial

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are both Caucasian. Recently, we adopted a beautiful mixed-race baby girl. She's Vietnamese, African-American and Hispanic. She is not even 4 months old, and already we have experienced some negative comments from strangers.

Where we live is progressive and open-minded, and I'm not so much concerned about our neighborhood or schools. But I'm no dummy. I know we're going to encounter people who have "questions" or unwarranted "opinions" (to put it nicely).

I'm not trying to educate those who choose to remain ignorant, nor reason with the unreasonable, or even explain our family and our choices. I just want a quick, witty response that tells people their not-so-nice comments are unwelcome and, to put it frankly, back off. Any suggestion?

OPEN-MINDED IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR OPEN-MINDED: According to the 2010 census, 9 million Americans (2.9 percent of the population) are multiracial. It also showed that the number of people who reported multiple races grew by a larger percentage than those reporting a single race.

Frankly, I don't think you should say anything "witty" to a bigot. Just smile and say, "It's the wave of the future. Get used to it."

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: For the past year I have been with a man I love dearly. We live together and share our lives as independent young adults.

The problem is his mother. She was cold and distant to him when he was a child, and her emotional abuse has continued into his adulthood. Holidays are a nightmare, visits a chore, and his phone calls with her often leave him in tears.

I wanted him to come with me to spend the holidays with my family, but she guilted him into spending them with her. I hate seeing him go through this, and I don't know what I can do about it. I think she is a toxic influence and he needs to cut her out of his life altogether. Advice?

PROTECTING MY GUY

DEAR PROTECTING: What you think about his mother isn't as important as what your boyfriend does. From your description, their relationship is unhealthy. My advice is to encourage your boyfriend to discuss this with a licensed mental health professional. If he does, it may give him the incentive he needs to distance himself from her.

P.S. When the next family holidays come around, by all means invite him to spend them with your family. That way he will have a chance to see how a normal family functions.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: When my in-laws come for dinner, they ask what

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



they can bring. I always say "absolutely nothing," but they bring dessert or a bottle of wine, and then take the uneaten dessert or uncorked bottles of wine home with them. What's the rule of etiquette when someone brings items to a party?

WONDERING IN FLORIDA

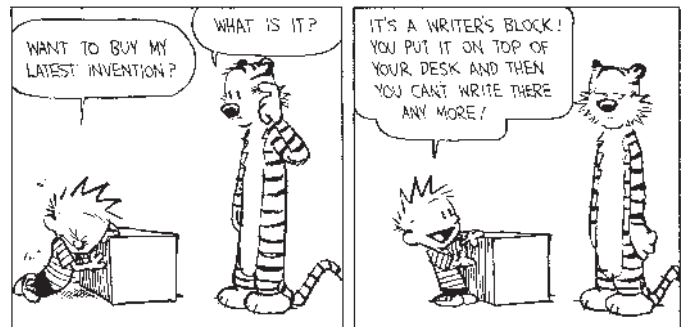
DEAR WONDERING: When guests bring something to their hostess—a bottle of wine or dessert—it is considered a gift. For guests to commandeer the leftovers without them having been offered is poor manners.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®



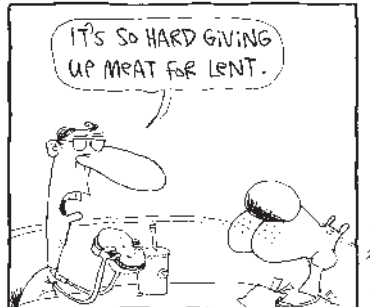
By Jim Davis

## Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

## CROSSWORD

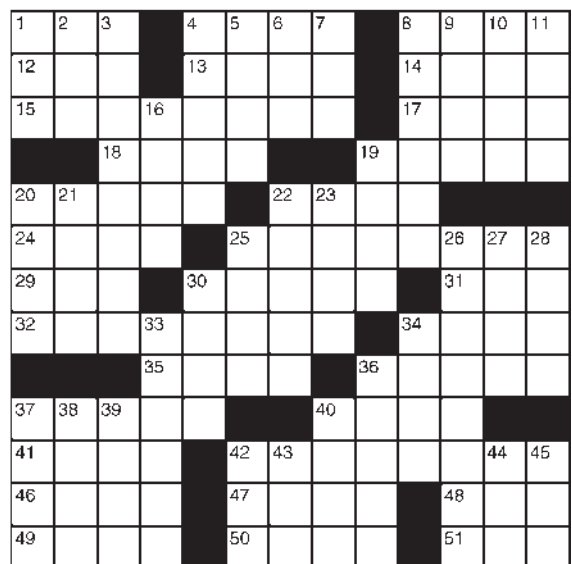
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Occupation
- 4 Having a Y chromosome
- 8 Invitation notation
- 12 Be below par
- 13 Leading man
- 14 Gardener, at times
- 15 Toronto team
- 17 Cosmonaut
- 18 Furry sci-fi critter
- 19 NFL Hall-of-Famer
- 20 Thread
- 22 Leave a lasting impression
- 24 Bloodhound's clue
- 25 Mix up
- 29 Ultra-modernist
- 30 Wise lawgiver
- 31 Shelter
- DOWN**
- 32 Subtract
- 34 Twofold
- 35 Shade
- 36 Muscular
- 37 Run — of (violate)
- 40 Singer
- 41 Deposited
- 42 In song, it "saw me standing alone"
- 46 Ticket price?
- 47 Traditional
- 48 Bill
- 49 Clumsy fleet
- 50 "— be surprised"
- 51 List-ending abbr.
- 19 Read bar codes
- 20 Typist's choice
- 21 Notion
- 22 Showy display
- 23 Helen's home
- 25 Scattered, as seed
- 26 Noted jazz label
- 27 Image on Canada's flag
- 28 Silthery
- 30 Go yachting
- 33 Piano pieces
- 34 Consider a cut
- 37 —
- 38 Equitable
- 39 Sty cry
- 40 Expert
- 42 Journalist
- 43 Privy
- 44 Feedbag tidbit
- 45 Fallon's home

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 3-6



## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5951! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Shaquille O'Neal, 43; Connie Britton, 48; D.L. Hughley, 52; Rob Reiner, 68.

**Happy Birthday:** Look at your options and choose whatever direction allows you to make the most improvements in your community as well as your home environment. It's what you do, not what you say, that will impress others, positioning you for a brighter future. A partnership can help you advance, but only if it's based on equality. Your numbers are 4, 15, 20, 23, 35, 39, 44.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Stay balanced and refuse to let the little things bother you. Taking on too much will lead to professional problems. Don't offer to do something that will be impossible to achieve. Love should be your top priority. Romance will improve your personal life. ★★

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Offer physical assistance and something valuable will develop. You are best not to ask questions, but to do what needs to be done and keep moving. It's your sincerity, dedication and trust that will win favors in return. ★★★★★

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Partnerships will take an interesting turn. Get any misconceptions out of the way so that you can head in a direction that will benefit you as well as the people you care about. Don't make an impulsive financial decision. ★★

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Stick close to home. Make alterations that are geared toward your comfort and that offer an inviting environment for friends and family. Don't

let uncertainty cloud your vision or cause you to act impulsively. Listen and adapt instead of complaining or criticizing. ★★★★★

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Say what's on your mind and make plans to do something that will please someone you love. A trip that offers knowledge as well as adventure and excitement will help you make a decision regarding your personal life and future. ★★

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep close tabs on your money, health and pending legal matters. You will succeed if you are disciplined in your actions and if you stay on top of time-sensitive documents, rules and regulations. Don't fold under pressure. ★★

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Do your share. It's easy to let others do things for you, but in the end you will be the one who loses. A little effort will ensure good returns. An important relationship needs equality to survive. ★★

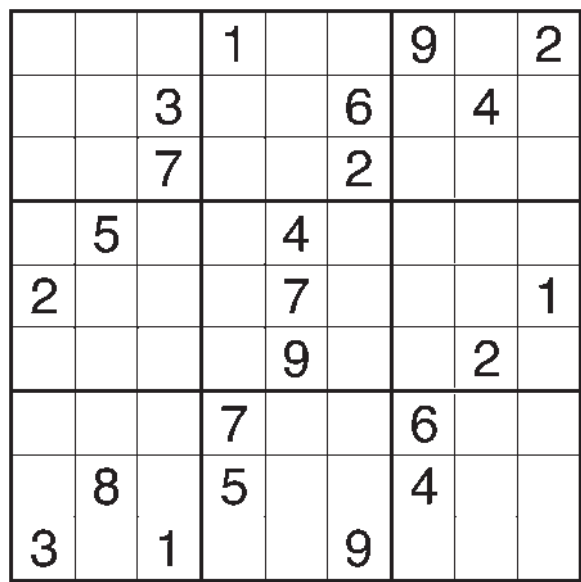
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Keep an open mind but a closed pocketbook. You don't have to spend to find out information. Do your own research and make adjustments that suit your lifestyle and needs. Don't listen to someone who is prone to exaggeration. ★★

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Make positive changes at home. Real estate investments look good along with home-improvement projects. An important relationship will improve if you make a commitment or fulfill a promise. An emotional situation will be based on false information. ★★

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

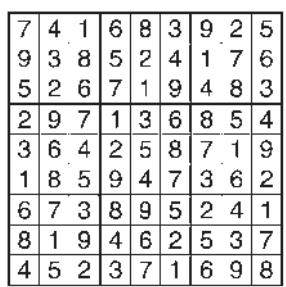


Difficulty Level ★★★★★

3/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

3/06

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will be faced with a challenge if you force your will on others. Do your own thing and don't worry about what everyone else is doing. Follow your heart and don't be afraid to take a different route than everyone else. ★★★★★



**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Let your innovative imagination lead the way, and use your insight and intelligence to entice others to help you reach your goals. People from your past will be an asset to you now. Romance is highlighted. ★★



**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Concentrate on important partnerships. Honesty will be the key to making sure you have the same ideals and goals in mind. Don't limit what you can do by giving in to someone's whims. Speak up and go it alone if necessary. ★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are enthusiastic, outspoken and goal-oriented. You are idealistic and persuasive.

Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TAURUS

Solution: 4 letters



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April, Aries, Artistic, Astrology, Bronze, Calm, Celestial, Central, Deep, Earth, Emerald, Equinox, Europa, Gemini, Latin, Love, May, Minotaur, Modest, Moon, Nature, Patient, Persistent, Pink, Plants, Pleasure, Pleiades, Possessive, Practica, Procrastinator, Reliable, Renewal, Rose, Security, Sign, Spade, Spring, Stars, Stubborn, Western  
**Yesterday's Answer: Lens**  
The **WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #2** is here! Purchase on iRe at [www.WonderWordBooks.com](http://www.WonderWordBooks.com) or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

3/6



# CLASSIFIED ADS



WHATZIT Solution: Memory like a sieve

## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune’s Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

### CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

#### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

### CANCELLATION

#### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

# WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

WHATZIT? © 2015 www.v-puzzle.com  
Distributed by Universal Uclick

Find today’s solution in classified section

### LSG Sky Chefs

LSG SKY CHEFS is looking for the following positions:

- Customer Service/QA Clerk
- Warehouse/Purchasing Clerk
- Warehouse/Receiving Clerk
- Sanitation Worker
- Counter Attendant

- Delivery Driver
- Cook Helper
- Butcher
- Baker
- Cook

Interested applicants, please email resume to [rita.taitano@lsgskychefts.com](mailto:rita.taitano@lsgskychefts.com)  
**No phone calls please.**

## SAIPAN MARINE CORPORATION

### Job Opportunity for Temporary Part-time Hire

- MASTERS
- MARINE ENGINEERS
- A/Bs
- DECKHANDS

Qualification:

1. Must have valid Philippine License and Qualification
2. Available to work immediately and on call status on Tugboat assignment

We are an equal opportunity employer and comply with all CNMI laws relevant to employment. All qualified candidates will receive serious consideration.

Please apply in person at the Saipan Marine Corporation office located at the Ground Floor CPA building in Puerto Rico. Telephone # (670) 322-7345 look for Michelle Hamilton.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRE.

## Kanoa Resort

Saipan

### (9) COOK

**Qualifications:** High School graduate or equivalent with three (3) years work experience preferably in a hotel. Basic culinary skills and good hygiene knowledge is essential. Ability to work a variable schedule on occasion, including early morning, evenings and/or weekends.

**(1) A/C REFRIGERATION MECHANIC / TECHNICIAN**

**Qualifications:** Completion of an apprenticeship program or two (2) years of experience. Capable of reading schematic diagram, can work on commercial temperature control and air quality. Perform a wide array of duties, inspect, maintain and troubleshoot centralized A/C cooling tower. Require post-secondary instruction from technical and trade schools or community colleges that offer programs in air-conditioning and refrigeration and/or associate's degree. Must be able to work flexible hours including nights, weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants may send their applications to [hr@kanoaresort.com](mailto:hr@kanoaresort.com). Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 11, 2015. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

**Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**

**Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.**

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

#### SENIOR ELECTRICAL MANAGER

Responsible for overall management of electrical power generating power plant. Position requires a qualified candidate to perform responsible professional engineering work on a variety of power generating utility equipment and systems. Duties allows for broad latitude of independent action, judgment and decision-making with minimal direction and supervision.

**Qualifications:** Bachelor Degree in Electrical Engineering or its equivalent; and at least five (5) years' experience in operation and maintenance of diesel engine power generation.

**Jobsite:** CUC Power Plant, San Jose Village, Tinian.

Send resume to Jeffrey L. Barr, General Manager in-Charge, P.O. Box 464, Tinian, MP 96952 or by Facsimile: (670) 433-4505; or by e-mail: [jeff.meti@pticom.com](mailto:jeff.meti@pticom.com)

### APARTMENTS FOR RENT

**Realty Management Services**

**Fina Sisu Terraces**  
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **\$250/month.**  
2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

**Ocean View Terraces**  
(Navy Hill) ) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft  
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$600/month**

**Sunset View Terraces**  
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft  
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**

**Hilltop Condominium\***  
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft  
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **\$700/month**  
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft **\$500/month**  
**\*Wi-Fi & nighttime security exuded**

**FEATURES:**

- Fully Furnished
- Back-up Generator
- Air-conditioning in all rooms
- FREE WIFI
- Laundry Area
- Nighttime Security
- Ample Parking
- 24hr water

Please visit our website at [www.saipan-properties.com](http://www.saipan-properties.com)  
Call for an appointment **235-6527/8.**

## Kanoa Resort

Saipan

### (2) GUEST SERVICES AGENT

Qualifications: High School diploma or GED certificate. Must have minimum of one or two years of training involving both on-the-job experience and informal training with experienced workers in providing quality customer and personal services. Must be able to speak, read and write in English and Chinese. Must be able to work a variable schedule including nights, weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants may send their applications to [hr@kanoaresort.com](mailto:hr@kanoaresort.com). Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 12, 2015. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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**Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.**

## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

OPENING DATE: March 06, 2015 CLOSING DATE: March 27, 2015 TIME: 4:30 PM

**SALARY AT \$55,000.00 - \$60,000.00 UNGRADED**  
(Commensurate with education and experience)

### “COMPTROLLER”

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC’s employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.


It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Becky V. Manalo, Administrative Assistant at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to [admin@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:admin@nmhc.gov.mp). NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**  
Corporate Director




WANTED TO BUY



Need Quick Cash? I am looking for a house or lot to buy in Garapan. (670) 484-4071 or (671) 687-5863.

LOOKING FOR A HOUSE



Urgently looking for a house to rent near As Matuis or Lower Capitol Hill. Four to Five Bedroom House. Preferably furnished with Water Heater and A/Cs. Please call or text 483-6199.

EMPLOYMENT



1-Violin Instructor. 3 years experience. Myong Run Corp. dba Doremi Music School. Tel. 233-7777.

CHINESE GOODS INC.

Job Vacancy Announcement

2 – COOKS

- Minimum of 2 years work related experience
- Knowledgeable in Chinese cuisine
- Able to work flexible work hours/schedule

Mail resume to P.O. Box 502351, Saipan MP 96950

Vacancy Announcement

(1) Fisherman

Atleast 2 yrs. experience. Must be able to handle difficult weather conditions, possess physical strength. Knowledge in operating a boat.

Submit Applications To: Joseph Jones

Tel. # (670)483-1565

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 – HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

High school diploma with (5) years minimum work related experience. Able to operate various heavy equipment including but not limited to Backhoe/Loader, Compactor, Tractor/Trailer Combo, Bulldozer, Hydraulic Crane and Grader. Crane operator must be able to pass required crane certification exam. Must understand load weights and check them against lifting capacities to prevent overload and have full knowledge of how to operate cranes, or other moving equipment for lifting, moving, or placing loads. Learn and follow safety regulations. Take actions to avoid potential hazards or obstructions, such as utility lines, other equipment, other workers, or falling objects. Clean, lubricate and inspect mechanisms or accessories such as cables, pulleys, or grappling devices to prevent malfunctions or damage. Perform routine maintenance of equipment. Must have knowledge in troubleshooting and able to diagnose problem or malfunction and make repairs as necessary.

Interested qualified applicants can submit their resume and latest police clearance via e-mail to saipan@aiconstruction.com or mail to AIC Marianas, Inc., PMB 564 PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950. Closing date: March 11, 2015.

Warehouse for RENT

REM GUALO RAI

Warehouse #3 - Size: 4,000sq/ft \$0.85 per sq/ft. Negotiable

REM LOWERBASE

Warehouse #2 - Size: 6,000sq/ft \$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 235-6527/28 or 285-1317

CMLC ARTHA CO., LTD.

P.O.Box 500439, Saipan, MP 96950

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Dive Instructor

Preferably can speak Korean and Japanese.

Must possess current Scuba Diving instructor license from a Professional Scuba Diving Association (PADI, NAUI, CMAS). Must have at least 2 to 5 years experience.

No phone call please. Interested U.S. applicants can send their resume to acctg.cmlc@gmail.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

BEST SUNSHINE INTERNATIONAL

Best Sunshine is committed to develop Saipan's first Integrated Resort, which includes hotels, retail shops, restaurants, spa & wellness, health & aesthetics tourism, conference, casino and themed entertainment. We invite interested professionals to apply for the following positions.

• Pile Hammer Operator – \$6.05 - \$6.50 hourly

Requirements:

Controlling operations of equipment or systems. Watching gauges, dials, or other indicators to make sure a machine is working properly The ability to judge which of several objects is closer or farther away from you, or to judge the distance between you and an object. Knowledge of machines and tools, including their designs, uses, repair, and maintenance. Have the ability and physical coordination to operate complex machinery Must be physically fit and able to work in a team atmosphere At least 2 years of working experience or higher in the related field is required for this position. Must have criminal background clearance and drug test clearance.

• Welding Technician – \$6.05 - \$6.50 hourly

Requirements:

Possess AWS certificate Must be physically fit and able work in a team atmosphere. At least 3 years of working experience or higher in the related field is required for this position. Must be able to work as a team Must be able to understand simple drawings Knowledge and can perform both basic and advance metal welding courses; Knowledge in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry; Comprehension in non-destructive tests for welding; Analytical skills. Must have criminal background clearance and drug test clearance.

• Rigger – \$6.05 - \$6.50 hourly

Requirements:

Must be able to work in a team atmosphere. Must put forward a professional behavior that enhances productivity and promotes teamwork and cooperation. Grooming and dress must be appropriate for the position and must not impose a safety/risk hazard to the employee or others. Must be able to obtain and maintain a security clearance as required. Employee must have a valid driver license. Visual and physical (hands on) contact of rigging related systems, hardware, articles. Must be able to walk, stand, bend, twist and sit for extended periods as well as climb, crawl, and lift, body mobility and corrected vision. At least 2 years of working experience or higher in the related field is required for this position. Must have criminal background clearance and drug test clearance.

• Building Surveyor – \$6.05 - \$6.50 hourly (5)

Requirements:

Minimum 3 years job experience ensuring projects are completed on budget and to schedule; advising clients on schemes and projects and determining requirements; preparing scheme designs with costings, programmes for completion of projects and specification of works; organizing documents for tender and advising on appointing contractors, designers and procurement routes; determining the condition of existing buildings, identifying and analyzing defects, including proposals for repair; advising on energy efficiency, environmental impact and sustainable construction; instructing on the preservation/conservation of historic buildings; advising on the management and supervision of maintenance of buildings; dealing with planning applications and advising on property legislation and building regulations; assessing and designing buildings to meet the needs of people with disabilities; instructing on construction design and management regulations; negotiating dilapidations (when there is a legal liability for a property's state of disrepair); carrying out feasibility studies; advising on the health and safety aspects of buildings; advising on boundary and rights of light disputes and party wall procedures; Preparing insurance assessments and claims.

Employment Application must be submitted, together with the requirements, in order to be considered for the position. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETE AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered. A copy of valid police clearance (less than 6 months old) must be attached to the application. Skills testing may be required. Please email hr@bestsunshineint.com to request the application form, then submit the entire package to hr@bestsunshineint.com. Background check may be required before employment.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Judiciary Administrative Office

Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice

P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950

T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

DEPUTY CLERK I

Office of the Clerk of Court

Superior Court

SAIPAN

DUTIES: This position is under the general supervision of the Presiding Judge and the direct supervision of the Clerk of Court or his/her designee. The employee performs work in accordance with established policies, practices, and court procedures. The following are required duties:

- Receives, reviews, and records documents filed for hearings;
- Provides data entry of pleadings onto the court's case management system;
- Provides daily updates of pleadings and other caseload information for the assigned judge through the court's automated processes, including, but not limited to, the document imaging and online filing system;
- Assesses fines, receives and accounts for monies, issues receipts, prepares deposit slips and provides disbursements per court order or requests from customer service window;
- Prepares and maintains physical and electronic file folders for court cases, including tracking of all pleadings associated with individual cases files;
- Serves as a courtroom clerk when court hearings are in session, including, but not limited to, swearing in of witnesses, logging of all admitted exhibits, tracking all phases of a hearing on an index sheet for the recording counter, operating the electronic recording equipment, and providing continuous monitoring of the recording equipment to ensure the integrity of the record; and,
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus a minimum of three (3) years related work experience. There is a strong preference for those with work experience in the legal field and those with a Bachelor's Degree. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary will be \$20,485 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at OPM offices in the CNMI, the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Michelle V. Guerrero

Human Resource/Administrative Officer

Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice

P.O. Box 502165

Saipan, MP 96950

Tel. (670)236-9818

Fax. (670) 236-9702

michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.

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DEPUTY MARSHAL

On the island of TINIAN

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the general supervision of the Director of Law Enforcement and Security in the Marshal Service Division on Tinian which involves the enforcement and execution of judicial orders and assigned law enforcement duties. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Performs enforcement and execution of court orders and service documents such as jury summons;
- Performs court security duties required for judicial proceedings, protection of justices, judges, court staff, clients, jurors, witnesses, and judicial facilities; assists in the operation of the court's security control monitoring systems;
- Conducts inspection and screening of all persons entering the courthouse and prohibits the entrance onto the court's premises of any items that are restricted or prohibited; provides the public with direction and information on all public services locations within the courthouse;
- Prepares written reports of service and non-service documents, incidents, and other reports as required;
- Performs prisoner handling while awaiting court hearings; escorts prisoners to courtrooms and to holding cells as directed;
- Has knowledge of and follows courtroom directives;
- Completes annually all required training including firearms; complies to all procedures relative to the proper use, maintenance, and security of government issued firearms; and
- Performs other duties on the courthouse premises as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent, a minimum of two (2) years experience in law enforcement and/or one year college level education in criminal justice or related field of study. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and served at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. Salary will be \$16,652 annually.

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# Westbrook has career-high 49, lifts Thunder past 76ers in OT



**OKLAHOMA CITY** (AP)—Russell Westbrook donned a mask and played like a superhero.

The All-Star Game MVP set career highs with 49 points and 16 rebounds, and added 10 assists for his fourth consecutive triple-double, helping the Oklahoma City Thunder defeat the Philadelphia 76ers 123-118 in overtime Wednesday night.

Westbrook wore the facial protection after having a bone in his right cheek fractured last Friday against Portland. He had surgery Saturday and missed Sunday's game against the Los Angeles Lakers.

He returned to the lineup in style. Westbrook became the first player since Michael Jordan in 1989 to have four consecutive triple-doubles, according to STATS, and the first since Jordan that year to have back-to-back triple-doubles with at least 40 points. It was the most points by any player with a triple-double since Larry Bird also scored 49 in 1992.

Jordan had seven straight triple-doubles and 10 in an 11-game span in 1989 for Chicago.

"It's definitely a blessing," Westbrook said, "but more importantly, I think it's important that we're winning."

He said the mask was little more than a nuisance.

"It was OK," he said. "It was weird. Had to keep wiping it. It was a total big process of trying to keep everything from fogging up. That's not going to stop me. My job is to come out and trying to lead my team."

It was Westbrook's sixth triple-double of the season and 14th of his career.

"It's amazing watching him play," 76ers guard Jason Richardson said. "You've got to take your hats off to this guy. He takes no plays off. He plays hard on both ends of the court. He rebounds. It's amazing to see a guy who has that much passion about winning."

Isaiah Canaan had career highs of 31 points and eight 3-pointers, and Richardson added 29 points for the 76ers.

Westbrook clinched the triple-double on a pass to D.J. Augustin for a 3-pointer that put the Thunder ahead 113-110 in overtime. Westbrook's pull-up jumper with 38.9 seconds to play put the Thunder up by three, then Westbrook made the first of two free throws with 30.3 seconds left to make it 120-116.

Richardson's two free throws made it a two-point game.

Westbrook made the second of two free throws with 21.9 seconds left to make it 121-118. The 76ers turned the ball over, and Westbrook made two more free throws to clinch the game.

Canaan was 5 of 5 on 3-pointers early to help the 76ers take a 32-17 lead with 3:30 left in the first quarter. The Thunder responded with a 15-0 run to tie

the game, and Westbrook found Mitch McGary for a layup as time expired in the quarter to give the Thunder a 37-34 lead.

The 76ers led 59-56 at halftime, and Canaan's eighth 3 pushed Philadelphia's lead to 75-60 before Oklahoma City's bench rallied late in the quarter and cut the deficit to 90-84 by the end of the period. Nick Collison's layup tied it at 90 early in the fourth quarter.

The Thunder led 93-90 when Richardson went for a layup. McGary blocked it, and Richardson got a technical for arguing. Augustin's technical free throw was the last point of an 18-0 run for Oklahoma City.

"The bench did a great job of coming in, making shots, locking down defensively, sped the pace up a little bit and made some big shots," Westbrook said.

Westbrook made back-to-backs to push the lead to 108-99, the second with the crowd on its feet. Philadelphia called timeout, and the crowd broke into its loudest MVP chant yet for Westbrook.

Hollis Thompson's 3-pointer with 55.2 seconds to play cut Oklahoma City's lead to 110-107, and Richardson's 3 with 27.1 seconds left tied the score, sending the game into overtime. Westbrook scored 10 points in the extra period.

"For those of you, including myself, that thought Russell might need a couple of games to get used to wearing a mask, we were wrong," Thunder coach Scott Brooks said. "He was all over the floor."

## Cavaliers 120, Raptors 112

In Toronto, LeBron James scored 29 points and matched a season high with 14 assists, Kevin Love had 22 points and 10 rebounds and Cleveland held on to beat Toronto.

Kyrie Irving scored 26 points, J.R. Smith had 15 and James Jones 14 to help the Cavaliers win their second straight. They improved to 9-8 in the second game of back-to-backs.

Jonas Valanciunas had 26 points and 11 rebounds, Lou Williams scored 21 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter, and DeMar DeRozan had 25 points for the Raptors. They lost for the sixth time in seven games.

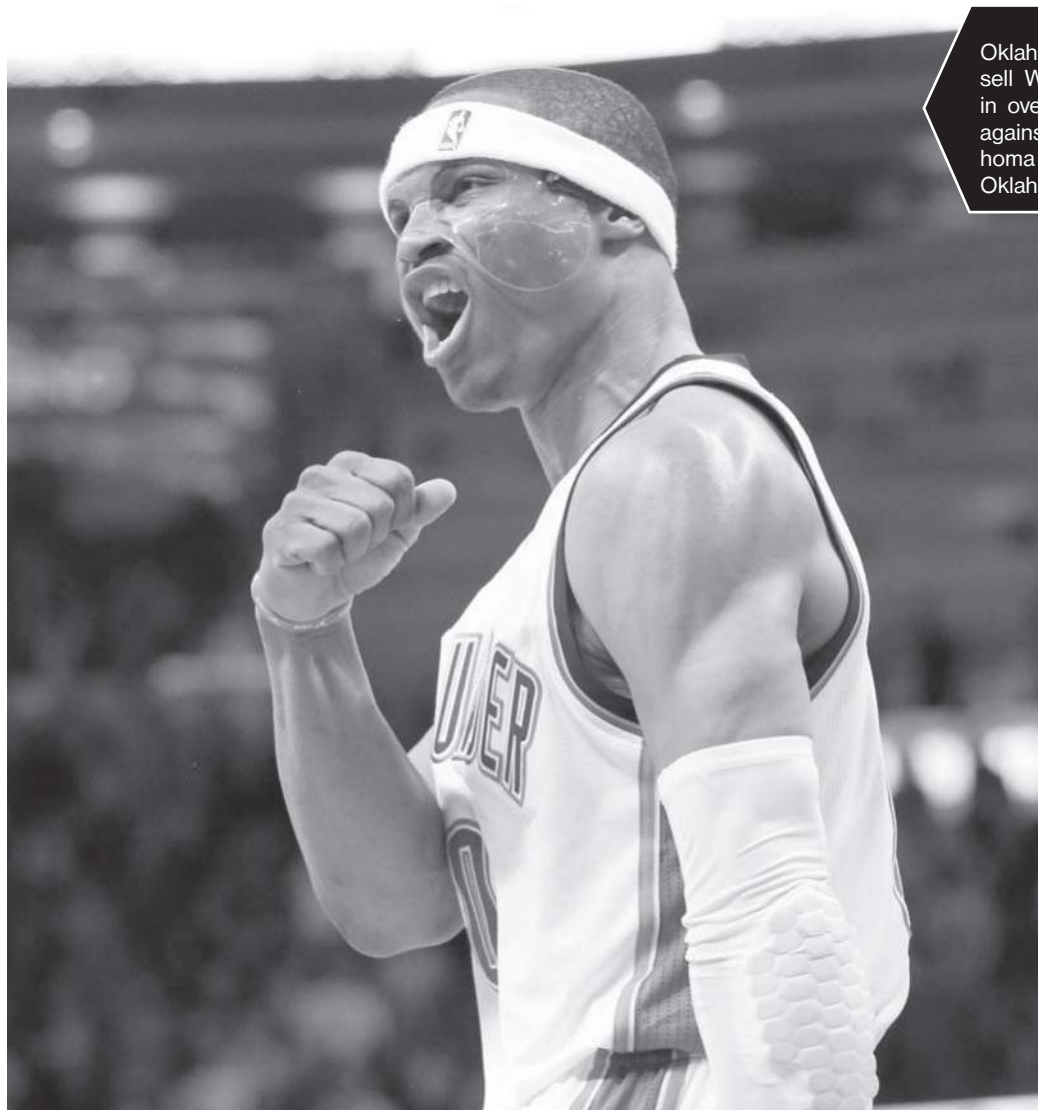
James finished four rebounds shy of a triple-double.

## Grizzlies 102, Rockets 100

In Houston, Marc Gasol made a jumper with 0.1 seconds left to lift Memphis past Houston.

With the game tied, Gasol blocked James Harden's layup with 6.4 seconds left to give the Grizzlies the ball back for his winner. Gasol finished with 21 points.

Courtney Lee made a pair of free throws with about a minute remaining to give Memphis a 100-98 lead. Terrence Jones tied it with a hook shot seconds later,



Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook gestures after a basket in overtime of an NBA basketball game against the Philadelphia 76ers in Oklahoma City, Wednesday, March 4, 2015. Oklahoma City won 123-118.

and Gasol missed on the other end to set up the final sequence.

The win extended the Grizzlies lead over second-place Houston in the Southwest Division and tied the season series at 2-2.

ones had 21 points and Harden scored 18 in his return after a one-game suspension for kicking LeBron James on Sunday.

## Pelicans 88, Pistons 85

In New Orleans, Anthony Davis had 39 points, 13 rebounds and eight blocks in his first game back from a right shoulder sprain, and New Orleans won for the sixth time in seven games.

Davis hit two mid-range jumpers in the last 1:14, the second with 18 seconds left, to hold off Detroit in a frenetic game that was close throughout the second half.

In only his third season, Davis has a Pelicans career-record 437 blocks. His seventh of the game gave him the record, surpassing David West's mark of 435.

Tyreke Evans had 21 points and nine assists for New Orleans.

Jodie Meeks scored 20 points for Detroit.

## Warriors 102, Bucks 93

In Oakland, Calif., Stephen Curry shook off a rough shooting night to make three straight 3-pointers early in the fourth quarter that helped the Golden State Warriors beat Milwaukee in their return from a season-high, six-game road trip.

Draymond Green had 23 points and 12 rebounds on his 25th birthday, Klay Thompson scored 17 and Shaun Livingston added 16 for the Warriors, who improved to an NBA-best 25-2 at home.

Giannis Antetokounmpo and Michael Carter-Williams scored 16 points each for the Bucks, who have lost six of seven and went winless on a four-game trip.

After playing 10 of the previous 11 on the road, Golden State was locked in a close game until Curry found his shooting stroke in the fourth quarter. He finished with 19 points and 11 assists.

## Heat 100, Lakers 94

In Miami, Dwyane Wade scored 25 points and added six assists, Hassan Whiteside grabbed 25 rebounds and Miami rallied to beat Los Angeles.

Wade's last two assists set up Whiteside for crucial scores in the final moments. The Heat held on to the No. 7 spot in the Eastern Conference playoff race and posted two straight home wins for the first time in more than four months.

Goran Dragic scored 21 points and Whiteside finished with 18 for the Heat, who got 15 from Luol Deng and won for just the fifth time in 26 games when trailing at halftime.

Ed Davis had 14 points and 12 rebounds, Wayne Ellington scored 14 points and Jordan Hill had a 13-point, 10-rebound night for the Lakers.

## Celtics 85, Jazz 84

In Boston, Tyler Zeller banked in a shot from under the basket as time expired to lift Boston past Utah.

After Boston blew an eight-point lead in the final 2 1/2 minutes, Marcus Smart made a long inbounds pass to Zeller under the basket. He banked it off the backboard with 0.1 seconds showing on the clock. It went through the net as the buzzer

sounded and was upheld after a review.

Isaiah Thomas led Boston with 21 points, Jae Crowder had 18 and Avery Bradley added 13 points and seven rebounds to help the Celtics rebound from a 31-point loss in Cleveland on Tuesday night.

Gordon Hayward gave Utah the lead with 1.7 seconds left with a fallaway jumper from the right baseline. Derrick Favors and Trey Burke scored 16 points each for Utah.

## Spurs 112, Kings 85

In San Antonio, Kawhi Leonard had 21 points and San Antonio punctuated its return from its nearly monthlong rodeo road trip with its largest home victory of the season.

Tony Parker added 19 points and three assists while guiding the Spurs to 53 percent shooting.

DeMarcus Cousins had 14 points for the Kings on 5-for-12 shooting.

## Suns 105, Magic 100

In Orlando, Fla., Brandon Knight had 28 points and seven assists in his best game for Phoenix, and the Suns overcame a 15-point deficit to beat Orlando.

Markieff Morris added 23 points and six rebounds, and P.J. Tucker scored all 19 of his points in the second half to help Phoenix snap a two-game skid and improve to 4-10 in its last 14.

The Suns outscored the Magic 34-17 in the third quarter to take control.

## Hornets 115, Nets 91

In New York, Al Jefferson and Gerald Henderson each scored

19 points, Marvin Williams had 18 and Charlotte routed Brooklyn in a key matchup in the Eastern Conference playoff race.

Mo Williams added 14 points and a season-high 14 assists for the Hornets, who rode a blistering start to their third straight win, breaking a tie with the Nets for the eighth and final playoff spot.

Michael Kidd-Gilchrist finished with 10 points, his career-best seventh straight game in double figures, and 13 rebounds for Charlotte.

Deron Williams had 12 points for the Nets.

## Pacers 105, Knicks 82

In Indianapolis, George Hill scored a season-high 21 points, and Rodney Stuckey had 17 to help Indiana rout New York.

The Pacers won their third straight, matching their longest winning streak of the season. And with nine wins in 11 games, Indiana also moved a little closer to the final playoff spot in the East.

Andrea Bargnani led New York with 25 points. The Knicks have lost 10 of their last 12.

## Nuggets 100, Timberwolves 85

In Minneapolis, Kenneth Faried had 18 points and 14 rebounds to help Denver win its second straight since firing coach Brian Shaw.

Will Barton scored 17 points off the bench and the Nuggets outscored Minnesota 52-28 in the paint to make interim coach Melvin Hunt 2-0 since taking over for Shaw. The Nuggets have won back-to-back games for the first time since Jan. 14.

Andrew Wiggins scored 20 points for the Timberwolves.

## Trail Blazers 98, Clippers 93 OT

In Los Angeles, Nicolas Batum hit a 3-pointer that forced overtime, then set up three alley-oop baskets and added a clinching 3 in the final minute to rally Portland past the Los Angeles Clippers.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 29 points and Batum added 20 for the Northwest Division leaders, who have won four straight after a 6-11 stretch that began with a 100-94 loss to the Clippers on Jan. 14 at Portland.

Damian Lillard was 1 for 13 from the field, finishing with five points, five turnovers and a career-high 18 rebounds in 43 minutes. The third-year guard missed his first 12 shots before making a layup off a lob pass from Batum to give the Blazers a 91-89 edge with 3:04 left in overtime.



## Source: Peyton Manning returning for 18th NFL season



**ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)**—Hold that gold watch. Peyton Manning is taking one more shot at the silver trophy.

Weeks of speculation about the five-time MVP's future ended Wednesday with word that he's returning for an 18th season in the NFL and fourth in Denver.

A person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press that Manning will take a \$4 million pay cut, from \$19 million to \$15 million, but that he can make it all back through performance incentives. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because there was no official announcement of the deal.

Manning, who is still scheduled to make \$19 million in 2016 in the final season of the five-year contract he signed in 2012, will take his physical and sign his revised contract Thursday.

Manning mulled retirement after the Broncos' playoff loss to the Indianapolis Colts. But he determined he still had the health and hunger to keep playing at age 39, when he tries to become the oldest QB to win a Super Bowl.

"We're just excited to have him back," Pro Bowl running back C.J. Anderson told the AP. "Of course, he just wants to go out there and win that ring. And we're just trying to go out there and help him win it. ... If he said he's mentally and physically ready to play, that

doesn't mean it's at a subpar level. It means it's at a high level."

Manning, who won a title with the Colts in 2006, met with general manager John Elway a few weeks ago after taking some time to decompress from an arduous season and told him he wasn't ready to retire.

Reminiscent of Brett Favre's annual flirtations with retirement, however, this saga dragged on as the Broncos and Manning's agent Tom Condon reworked the quarterback's contract.

The \$4 million savings won't drastically change Denver's free agency plans. It gives Elway about \$20 million to work with, but much of that will go to his own restricted free agents and a large draft class.

After dealing with a nagging thigh injury that hampered his performance down the stretch, Manning worked out this offseason in New Orleans with physical trainer Mackie Shilstone, renowned for helping athletes extend the twilight of their careers.

On Feb. 12, Manning flew to Denver in team owner Pat Bowlen's jet to meet with Elway, CEO Joe Ellis and new coach Gary Kubiak. He also huddled with offensive coordinator Rick Dennison, who replaced Adam Gase, Manning's co-pilot in Denver's offense who followed John Fox to Chicago.

Kubiak has designed mainly West Coast offenses throughout

his career that often require the quarterback to line up under center and roll out. Mobility has never been Manning's calling card; he's been most comfortable making quick throws out of the shotgun in recent years.

Yet, Kubiak said it's "easy to build a playbook" for Manning and noted that Joe Flacco, whom he tutored in Baltimore, rolled out a mere two dozen times last season.

Manning is all in.

"Aside maybe from Tubby Raymond's Delaware Blue Hen Wing-T offense, I feel pretty comfortable playing in any offense," Manning said recently.

Elway said Kubiak's offense reminds him of the system he ran during the final, Super Bowl-winning years of his career, when Kubiak was his offensive coordinator.

"Peyton can fit into this offense very easily," Elway said. "It's very dependent on balance. Peyton won't have to throw the ball 50 or 55 times. That gets more helpful, the older you get."

Manning has successfully adjusted before: the last two times he had a new head coach, he went 14-2 and 13-3.

Twelve hours after Manning delivered a shocker following Denver's 24-13 loss to the Colts in the playoffs, saying he was unsure about his football future, Elway beseeched him not to make a rash decision.

Elway used the same give-him-space approach when he lured

Manning to Denver following the quarterback's tearful release from Indianapolis in 2012. Manning had missed the entire 2011 season following neck fusion surgery, casting doubt on his future, so the Colts cut him to clear the way for No. 1 draft pick Andrew Luck.

Manning has led the Broncos to the best record in the NFL in each of his three seasons in Denver. Yet, each time, they unraveled in the playoffs: a 35-point Super Bowl loss to Seattle and two stunning home flops following first-round byes.

Manning, who has thrown 131 of his NFL-best 530 touchdown passes in a Broncos uniform, has but one Super Bowl title, three fewer than Tom Brady, whom he'll face for the 17th time in 2015.

While Brady readily professes his desire to play well into his 40s, Manning has always taken it one year at a time. In September, Manning said he liked Brady's "When I suck, I'll retire" quote.

Manning is 179-77 in the regular season. His nine one-and-out playoff performances are about the only blot on a career that features an unprecedented five MVP honors but half as many rings as brother Eli.

Manning owns most of the significant QB records and is 2,148 yards shy of breaking Favre's career yardage record of 71,838. He's also nine victories short of breaking Favre's record of 186 career wins.

## With Peterson's status in question, Vikings pay a visit

The Minnesota Vikings have made their in-person pitch to Adrian Peterson, the latest step toward resolving the star running back's unclear status.

Whether it's keeping him or turning to a trade, the Vikings will likely make up their minds soon about whether Peterson will continue his NFL career in purple.

General manager Rick Spielman and head coach Mike Zimmer spent about four hours Wednesday afternoon at Peterson's home north of Houston. KHOU-TV recorded video of Peterson emerging from the gated mansion wearing a white T-shirt and black workout pants to greet the pair with a hug. Spielman and Zimmer left together later, dressed in sport coats and blue jeans, while photographers from several media outlets captured on camera their departure in a gray car.

This was the first time they've had with Peterson since he was placed on paid leave in mid-September following his indictment in a child abuse case involving his 4-year-old son that was resolved with a plea bargain.

The NFL later suspended Peterson without pay under the personal conduct policy, a punishment supposed to be in effect through April 15. But last week a federal judge overruled the league's arbitrator who had denied Peterson's appeal. The NFL promptly appealed the decision to a higher court and put Peterson back on the exempt list in the meantime, which created the opportunity for direct contact by the Vikings.

"I appreciate Rick and Coach Zimmer coming down to see me today," Peterson said in a statement. "We had a great dialogue and they were able to understand where I was coming from and concerns my family and I still have. We respect each other and hopefully the situation can pan out so that everyone involved is content."

Peterson told ESPN in a recent interview he's uneasy about returning to the organization, though he's still under contract with a \$12.75 million base salary for 2015. His agreement to the meeting Wednesday stemmed from his respect for Zimmer, for whom he's only played one game.

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# Matansa, Shirley's notch easy wins

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Matansa Football Club and Shirley's FC eased past

separate foes to keep the Top 2 spots in team standings in the girls U15 division of the 2015 NMIFA Youth Spring League.

Matansa cruised to a 3-0 win against Paire Football Club in the final game in the division last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field to improve its record to 2-1-0 (win-draw-loss). Shirley's holds the same record following a 5-1 rout of MP United also last Saturday and won the tiebreak for first place in the team standings with its higher goal difference. Shirley's has scored nine goals and allowed only three for a goal difference of six, while Matansa has four (four goals scored and none allowed).

Angelica Sally drilled two of those four goals in their victory over Paire FC in the second half, while Bernadette Horey tallied the other goal also in the final frame.

In the Shirley's FC-MP United tiff at Hopwood's Pitch 2, Diana Maniacop also logged two goals, scoring the former's first and last goal (fifth minute and 68th). Jobelle Tabuena, Katrina Costales, and Mia Carreon also hit the board for Shirley's FC. MP United, which dropped to fourth place in the team standings, drew its lone goal from Gilliam Villagomez.

Over at Hopwood's Pitch 1, Tan Holdings FC also recorded a 5-1 victory over Kanoa FC. Tan Holdings gained its second triumph in three games, while Kanoa remained winless.

Mary Kay Alferos started things off for Tan Holdings with her back-to-back goals in the first half, while Chloe Salvosa, Chevy Kate Alipio, and Lovely Loyola added one goal apiece.



## BOYS U15 Matansa 3, Kanoa 2

In the first game in the boys U15 last Friday at the Oleai Sport Complex Field, Matansa nosed out Kanoa.

David Mafnas gave Matansa the go-ahead goal in the 78th

minute, while Joshua De Leon and Glenn Mark Basallo drilled the two other goals for the winning squad.

Andrue Omelau canned the pair of goals for Kanoa with his second one in the 66th minute, lifting Kanoa to a 2-1 advantage

before Matansa stole the lead and the victory after scoring two goals in a span of two minutes. Basallo registered the second goal in the 76th minute.

## MP United 7, Paire 0

In the second game last Friday, division leader MP United pounded Paire to bag its third win in as many games.

Alex Park starred in MP United's demolition of Paire as he made a hat-trick last weekend. Oliver Lee chipped in two goals, while Sunjoon Tenorio and Joshua Abragan tallied one apiece.

## Tan Holdings-1 9, Tan Holdings-2 0

Tan Holdings-1 showed no love lost to sister team Tan Holdings-2 in their game last Saturday at the Oleai pitch.

Tan Holdings-1 bombarded Tan Holdings-2 with goals right in the first half with the former

collecting six goals. Mark Esalan and Thaiphi Austrai made two goals apiece in the first half, while Anthony Fruit and John Michael Rojas contributed one each. Esalan completed a hat-trick after scoring Tan Holdings-1 first goal in the second half, while Albert Bergancia and Fruit added one apiece.

## BOYS U18 Tan Holdings 4, Matansa 2

Tan Holdings was also victorious in the boys U18 division, downing Matansa last Saturday at the Oleai pitch.

Sean Perez nailed a pair of goals for Tan Holdings, which drew one each from Yoshi Mafnas and Joel Fruit. Perez and company recorded all their goals in the second half to recover from a 0-1 halftime deficit.

Matansa took the lead at the break after getting a goal from

Ryu Tanzawa in the ninth minute. Joshua De Leon posted Matansa's second goal in the 82nd minute.

## MP United 4, Paire 0

In the other boys U18 match last weekend, MP United blanked Paire.

Three different players scored for MP United. Chan Woo Jeong hit the board for MP United first with his goal in the 30th minute, while Daniel Lim knocked in the second one five minutes later. Lim got his second one in the 56th minute, while Enrico Del Rosario closed out for MP United with his shot in the 75th.

## CO-ED U12 MP United 3, Kanoa 2

MP United triumphed, too in the co-ed U12 division, outlasting Kanoa last Saturday at the Hopwood pitch.

Dylan Cho registered twin goals for MP United with his second one in the 56th minute lifting his team to the close win. Cho hit his first goal in the 47th, while Rintaro Miyawaki nailed MP United's lone goal in the first half (20th).

Brian Lubao and Merrick Toves scored for Kanoa, tallying both goals in the second half.

## Paire 6, Tan Holdings 4

Paire saved one win last weekend after its co-ed squad topped Tan Holdings FC.

Kaden Church towed Paire to victory with his hat-trick, while Blake Mister, Maui Johnson, and Justin Weaver backed him up, contributing one goal each.

Taka Borja led Tan Holdings' losing cause, as he also posted a hat-trick in consecutive fashion. Kohtaro Goto was the other scorer for Tan Holdings.

# Norita homers, Falcons snap skid

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Ned Norita found his old slugging form, hitting the season's first outside-the-park homerun to help the Falcons to an 8-5 win over the GSM Brewers in the 2015 Saipan Baseball League last Wednesday night at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

Norita, leading off in the top of the fourth, blasted a high fly ball that sailed past the left field fence and landed near the back of Sun Palace Hotel.

It was the fourth home run of the season as Norita's teammate A.J. Lizama, the Fielders' Jimmy Brel, and the Saipan Stevedore Yankees' Ben Jones Jr. also hit homers each.

The Falcons first baseman is one of the CNMI's top hitters and is best remembered for hitting a homer that went past the huge wall in the 1997 Big League World Series in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Lizama had a no-relief job on the mound surrendering five runs, two earned, on nine hits with four strikeouts and four walks for the Falcons, who snapped a two-game skid and in the process dealt the defending champions their second straight loss after dropping a 10-9 decision against the Fielders last week.

The Falcons also avenged their 10-4 defeat against the same team in the first round.

Falcons catcher Henry Iguel went 2-for-3 with a run and an RBI, while Peter Lieto had a 2-for-4 plate appearance with one run to boot.

Goru Iskawa, who moved

to second to third base in the bottom of the seventh, drove in two runs—Lizama and Lamarc Iguel—with a third-inning single but struck out three times.

Lizama and Lamarc Iguel scored a run each again in the top of the ninth on fielding errors by the Brewers.

The loss wasted Nokki Saralu's 3-for-5 performance at the plate, all singles, including a two-RBI single in the bottom of the ninth where the Brewers tried to make a comeback.

Lizama, who forced Diego Camacho to ground out on a 6-3 putout play and Vince Cepeda to an infield fly that was caught by Norita, walked Marvin Kaipat and gave up a single to Tyron Omar.

Saralu then slapped a single to right to bring in Kaipat and Omar keeping the Brewers'

hopes of making a comeback. Byron Kaipat, however, flied out to left field with Haini Blas making the catch to end the game.

Lenny Sablan started for the Brewers and lasted four innings where he allowed four runs, three earned, on four hits with one strikeout and two walks. Lancaster Secharmidal pitched 4.2 innings in relief and was tagged with two earned runs on four hits while fanning six and walking three batters.

Last Monday night, batting leader Gary Cruz and Robert Bansil drove in two runs each as the Yankees scored a comeback behind 8-7 win over the IP&E Fielders for their fifth straight win that put them on top of the standings with a 6-1 record followed by the 5-2 slates of the Brewers and the Falcons.

## PROS

From Page 32

studying in China, said through a translator that beach volleyball is a fun sport that they loved and will continue to play until they finally decide to retire.

Both players, who started in indoor volleyball, train for eight hours a day focusing on strength, ball control and their vertical leaping skills.

## UNBEATEN

From Page 32

Anna Vidal in clinching the women's crown.

Willsey and Tsuchiya defeated Saipan's Russ Quinn and partner Kosuke Sato in the finals, 21-19, for their fifth straight win in the Pro-Am event of the annual tournament that will be hosted by Saipan

Coaching is also part of Shen and Wang's plans when they retire where they want to share what they have learned from playing to other aspiring volleyball players.

The two Japanese pairs, meanwhile, train for four hours a day for six times a week holding running and jumping practice sessions on the sand.

While Habaguchi, who has played in various pro tours

in Thailand, Korea, and Russia, hopes to become a teacher and coach in Japan. Miyagawa wants to get married and start a family once she's done playing in the pro tour.

All players did not find any difficulty from shifting to indoor to beach volleyball.

"You just got to watch out for the wind but basically it is almost the same. It is not that hard," said Shen, who plays at

next year.

It was the second win for Willsey and Tsuchiya over the Quinn-Sato pair as they also scored a 21-18 decision in the early rounds.

Willsey and Tsuchiya also defeated Jeff Carlucci and Brandon Chance, 21-14; Guam's Luis Mensgon Jr. and P.J. Quintanilla, 21-15; and Jeff Santos Thomas and Guang Song, 21-5.

Quinn and Sato, who dropped to the loser's bracket, faced Carlucci and Chance in the knockout semis with the second finals berth at stake. The Saipan-Japan pairing, up 8-4 in the match, moved on to the finals after Carlucci and Chance had to forfeit due to injury.

It was also the same story in the women's side with Sablan and Vidal cruising their

a local tour in China with teammate Wang.

All three pairs said they hope to someday represent their respective countries' national teams in the Summer Olympic Games.

The three pairs of professional beach volleyball players arrived on Saipan last Monday. They will also hold a free clinic today at 4pm to 6pm at the Fi-esta beach and will have a meet-

way to the finals with wins over Maria K. Wahl and Andrea Hershberger, 21-9; Diana Carlos and Summer Miyagawa, 21-14; Japanese pair Nozomi Yanagi and Anna Miyakawa, 21-17.

Sablan and Vidal clinched the first finals berth after a 21-17 decision over Kendra Byrd and Erika Habaguchi.

The Yanagi-Miyakawa and

and-greet event at Godfather's Beach Bar afterwards.

Shen and Wang are also aiming for some payback when they play against Habaguchi and Miyagawa in another exhibition match. They lost to the Japanese pair in Guam.

The champions of the junior Marianas Cup on Sunday will then get a chance to team up with the professional players in a mix-and-match finale the same day.

Byrd-Habaguchi pairs then faced off in the semis with the right of facing Sablan and Vidal at stake. The former earned the chance of facing the undefeated pair in the finals after a 21-18 win.

Sablan and Vidal, however, foiled Yanagi and Miyakawa's upset bid and scored a 21-18 triumph to complete their unbeaten run.

## XTERRA

From Page 32

3:12:21 of Bucher and Slack, respectively. Carey finished fourth last year after submitting 3:16:32.

This year's XTERRA Saipan will take place after Tagaman Triathlon, which is scheduled for March 22. Registration for both events are ongoing and organizers are expected to draw participants from U.S., Guam, the Philippines, New Caledonia, Japan, Korea, Australia, Canada, Austria, and South Africa. Registration deadline from Tagaman is March 19 and March 23 for XTERRA Saipan.

Allen and Esposito have also signed up for Tagaman, while Japan pro Shishin Miyagi is also on the list along with several Korean and Japanese age group participants. Tagaman as of yesterday has lured 48 athletes, while 44 has registered for XTERRA Saipan.

Tagaman and XTERRA Saipan are part of the 2015 Saipan Sportsfest, which is supported by T Galleria DFS Saipan, United Airlines, United Express, Bank of Guam, DO-COMO PACIFIC, TakeCare Asia, *Marianas Variety*, and Pacific Islands Club Saipan.



# SSFm/New Garapan Market still perfect

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

SSFm/New Garapan Market kept its unbeaten record in the 2015 DLX Invitational Basketball League following an 86-62 thrashing of Team Familia last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

SSFm/New Garapan Market dominated Team Familia from start to finish to notch its third win in as many games and join idle Jake's Catering at the top spot of the team standings in the eight-squad league.

The young guns got the job done for SSFM/New Garapan Market as four of them scored in double figures to rout Team Familia, which dropped to a 0-2 record. John Paul Espinosa led SSFM/New Garapan Market with his 21 points, Sean Rabasto added 17, and Djang Ong and Mike Espinosa contributed 13 and 11, respectively as the

quartet's production matched the output of the entire Team Familia.

John Paul Espinosa, the tallest player on the court, made his presence felt early in the match, drilling 8 of his total points in the first period to give SSFM/New Garapan Market a double-digit lead, 21-10.

Team Familia never managed to bring the deficit down to single digit in the remaining three quarters to foil in its bid to barge into the win column. Only Jake and Ben Pelisamen hit double figures for Team Familia, posting 14 and 10 points, respectively. Team Familia missed the services of Larry Sharry, who had scored 8 markers before leaving the game late in the third due to an injury.

In the first game, Island Manpower went all out in the fourth quarter to survive Maplas' uprising in the third, 81-68 and notch its second straight win. Island Manpower saw its

once double-digit spread, 47-35, down to a hair, 57-56, after Maplas fought back in the third canto. Ed Yalung anchored Maplas' recovery at the start of the second half, scoring 8 points, while five of his teammates also contributed in the third-quarter rally.

However, Maplas failed to sustain its momentum in the fourth, as it was held to five field goals in the final canto and only three players hit the board for the squad in that frame. Ryan Odicta and Edmark Mendoza had 5 points each, while Yalung was held to 2.

Island Manpower doubled-up Maplas in the fourth and had its most points in a quarter after firing 24 to avoid the second-half collapse. Seven players scored for Island Manpower in the fourth with Jun Tabora putting the finishing touches in their 13-point winning margin after tallying the team's last 5 points.

## First Game

Island Manpower 81 –

Olopai 13, Norita 13, Tabora 13, Rangamar 12, Lizama 10, Teregeyo 8, Palacios 6, Tobias 4, Basillo 2.

**Maplas 68** – Mendoza 17, Yalung 16, Cortez 11, Odicta 9, Anicete 8, Salazar 2, Verano 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 24-18, 47-35, 57-56, 81-68.

## Second Game

**SSFm/New Garapan Market 86** – J. Espinosa 21, Rabasto 17, Ong 13, M. Espinosa 11, Velasco 6, Bisana 6, Teneperre 4, Palino 3, Echavez 2.

**Team Familia 62** – J. Pelisamen 14, B. Pelisamen 10, Sharry 8, R. Pelisamen 8, R. Olopai 6, Kaipat 6, J. Olopai 4.

**Scoring by quarters:** 21-10, 43-28, 63-42, 86-62.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

SSFm/New Garapan Market's John Paul Espinosa pulls up for a point-blank shot against two Team Familia defenders during the fourth quarter of their game in the DLX caging last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.



# 17 pairs join PIC tennis tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Seventeen pairs are competing in the doubles events in the opening week of 15th PIC Tennis Championships that will be held at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

The men's open doubles event has an interesting field with coaches Luke Beling and

Jeff Race, who once teamed up in a separate local competition, taking different partners for this weekend's tournament. Beling is joining forces with Peter Loken and the duo drew a bye in the first round, automatically advancing to the semifinals. They will face in the semis the winner between the Friday match of junior players Robbie

Schorr and Tony Kim and adult netters Bobby Cruz and Raj Rai.

Race has Tommy Choi as partner and they will duel the junior player tandem of Luther Lizama and Colin Ramsey for the other semis match this Saturday at 11:30am. The finals of the men's open doubles will be played this Sunday at 2pm.

Meanwhile, four other dou-

bles events are scheduled in Week 1 of the two-weekend tournament.

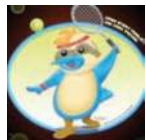
In the men's 4.0 doubles, only three pairs are contesting the championship. The duo of Donn Dunlop and Nicky Nichols is one of them, and the tandems of Raj Rai and Dong Min Lee and Keisuke Takagi and Reo Arriola complete the short list. The three pairs will play in a round-robin format with the team to have the most wins getting the division championship.

In the men's 3.0 doubles, the father-and-son team of Eric and Joshua Abragan will contest the championship against the PIC's very own Dennis Tababa and Glenn Policare at 11:30am this Sunday.

The women's 3.0 doubles also has only two entries with Chiharo Sato and Sakiko Eda dueling the tandem of Vickie Izuka and Mayling Colombo.

In the women's open doubles, six teams will battle for the championship. The pair of Mikayla Lopez and Negahr Rastguir is on the top of the draw and got a bye in the first round. They marched into the semifinals outright and will face in the Final Four the victor of the match between the tandems of Marivic Rosario and Tisha Ferrer and Lydia Tan and Sally Lee. The other semis pairing will have mother and daughter Eun Kyoung and Carol Lee challenging junior players Tania Tan and Malika Miyawaki. The finals of the women's open doubles is scheduled this Sunday 10am.

Besides the doubles events, the juniors singles will also take place this weekend, while the adults singles and juniors doubles will be played next weekend.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Colin Ramsey, seen here returning a shot to Luther Lizama in their boys U18 title game in last month's Coconut Tennis Classic at the AMP tennis courts, will team up with the latter as they bid for the men's open doubles crown in this weekend's PIC tennis tournament.

## SGA February Ace this Sunday

The Saipan Golfers Association will hold its February Ace of the Month Tournament on Sunday, March 8, at the



west course of the Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort. Show time is set at 9am and tee time is at 10am. (SGA)

## M-LEAGUE FIXTURES



### MEN'S DIVISION 2

Pos	Team	MP	W	D	L	Pts	GF	GA	GD
1	Tan Holdings	4	4	0	0	12	13	2	11
2	Wild Bill's	5	4	0	1	12	15	9	6
3	MP United	4	2	1	1	7	12	8	4
4	Inter Godfather's	5	1	1	3	4	11	12	-1
5	Paire	4	1	0	3	3	3	9	-6
6	KFAS	4	0	0	4	0	1	15	-14

### MEN'S DIVISION 2

1	Matansa	4	3	0	1	9	11	6	5
2	Sun Palace	4	2	2	0	8	11	8	3
3	Kanoa	4	2	1	1	7	14	10	4
4	Sun Palace	4	1	3	0	6	7	6	1
5	World Resort	4	1	2	1	5	9	8	1
6	Thundercats	4	0	2	2	2	7	10	-3
7	WNT	4	0	0	4	0	9	20	-11



### WOMEN'S DIVISION

1	Shirley's	3	3	0	0	9	12	0	12
2	Tan Holdings	4	2	2	0	8	13	5	8
3	Kanoa	4	2	1	1	7	14	8	6
4	MPU	4	2	1	1	7	8	10	-2
5	Matansa	3	1	0	2	3	5	6	-1
6	IFC	4	1	0	3	3	3	13	-10
7	Paire	4	0	0	4	0	4	17	-13

### UPCOMING GAMES

**March 7, 2015 (Women's)**  
4pm IFC vs Paire  
6pm Kanoa vs Shirley's  
8pm Tan Holdings vs Matansa  
**March 10, 2015**  
7:15pm Shirley's vs Matansa  
**March 8, 2015 (Men's)**  
2pm Kanoa vs MPU

4pm Wild Bills vs Tan Holdings  
6pm WNT vs Thundercats  
8pm Matansa vs World Resort  
**March 11, 2015**  
7pm Kanoa vs Sun Palace  
**March 12, 2015**  
7pm MPU vs Tan Holdings





**Westbrook  
has career-  
high 49, lifts  
Thunder past  
76ers in OT**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

**SSFM/New  
Garapan  
Market still  
perfect**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

32 FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2015

## Defending champs back for XTERRA Saipan



ALLEN

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**D**efending champions Ben Allen and Carina Wasle lead the list of pros who have registered, so far, for this month's XTERRA Saipan Championship.

Allen, who ruled last year's off-road race after clocking in at 2:34:29 in 1.5-kilometer swim, 30K bike, and 12k run race to notch his third straight title, will be putting his championship on the line in the March 28 against South Africa's Bradley Weiss, France's David Esposito, Japan's Takahiro Ogasawara, and the Philippines' Joe Miller.

Among the pros that have signed up so far for XTERRA Saipan, Weiss stands to be the biggest threat to Allen's title defense bid. Weiss topped the XTERRA Albay (Philippines), the kick-off of the XTERRA Asia Tour, last month, beating Allen, who finished third.



In the women's division, a Wasle-Mieko Carey duel is looming as former champions Jacqui Slack of the United Kingdom and Renate Bucher of Switzerland have yet to sign up for XTERRA Saipan. Emails to the two pros asking if they will compete in this year's XTERRA Saipan have yet to be returned at press time.

Wasle bagged her first XTERRA Saipan crown last year after stunning seven-time champion Bucher and 2014 winner Slack. Wasle posted a winning time of 3:03:31 against the 3:07:41 and

**See XTERRA on  
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WASLE

## Pros to MHS students: Train hard, play hard

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

"Live and breathe playing beach volleyball."

This was the message that beach volleyball professional players from China and Japan told a spirited group of Marianas High School students that listened to them during Wednesday's meet-and-greet session.

The Chinese pair of Rongrong Shen and Mengtong Wang,

along with the Japanese male duo of Kosuke Sato and Takashi Tsuchiya and women's partners Summer Miyagawa and Erika Habaguchi answered questions fielded to

them by MHS students.

They also held a similar event at Saipan International School later in the day. MHS and SIS were chosen after both schools ruled the girls' and boys' indoor volleyball event in the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization.



JON PEREZ

Marianas High School students have their picture taken with professional beach volleyball players, from left, Erika Habaguchi and Samaa Miyagawa of Japan and China's Mengtong Wang and Rongrong Shen during their visit to MHS last Wednesday.

The visit was part of the Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association's program

of activities for the 23rd Annual Marianas Cup Beach Volleyball Festival that was held over the weekend in Guam.

They also answered questions about nutrition, how they

started playing, other sports and hobbies, and even gave tips on becoming a better player.

Shen and Wang, who are still

**See PROS on Page 30**

### SIDEBAR

## Unbeaten pairs clinch Marianas Cup

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

Two pairs went unbeaten to clinch their respective division titles in the Pro-Am event of the 23rd Annual Marianas Cup Festival held over the weekend at the Ypao Beach in Guam.

Saipan's Tyler Willsey teamed up with Japanese pro Takashi Tsuchiya to rule the men's division, while Guam's Tatiana Sablan joined Spain's

**See UNBEATEN on  
Page 30**

#### MARIANAS CUP

Japan's Erika Habaguchi goes for a dig while China's Rongrong Shen, left, and Mengtong Wang look on in their exhibition game in the 23rd Annual Marianas Cup Festival in Guam. Habaguchi and partner Summer Miyagawa defeated Shen and Wang.

